USSR: THIRD CONGRESS OF COLLECTIVE FARMERS

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THIRD ALL-UNION CONGRESS OF COLLECTIVE FARMERS

(HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONGRESS)

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SPEECH
BY LEONID BREZHNEV

Dear comrades,

Allow me to offer my heartiest congratulations on the opening of the Third All-Union Congress of Collective Farmers and to wish it every success. The Congress of the collective farm peasantry is a major political event in the life of our country and the entire Soviet people. It will surely contribute much to the further development of the collective-farm system and the successful solution of problems involved in the building of communism.

The composition of the Congress is a living history of collectivization, of the birth and triumph of socialism in the countryside.

In this hall we see veterans of the collective-farm movement, those who, sparing no effort and overcoming immense difficulties, roused peasants to the building of a new life. Their courage, their fidelity to Lenin's behests, carried through years of trials and struggles, are highly valued by the Party and the Soviet people.

In this hall too, are representatives of the middle generation of collective farmers. Alongside the veterans they bore the burden of the grim years of the Great Patriotic War and rehabilitation of the economy devastated by war.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the women collective farmers whose work, especially during the war against fascism, was a tremendous contribution to our common victory over the enemy.

Among the Congress delegates we find representatives of the younger generation of collective farmers on whom we depend for the future of our socialist countryside. We firmly believe that in continuing the work of the older generation and adding to their experience, young collective farmers will be able to apply their knowledge and constructive enthusiasm correctly, in the lofty cause of building a communist society.

The composition of the Congress reflects one of the Leninist Party's greatest gains—indestructible brotherly friendship between the peoples of our multi-national state. All the nationalities of our homeland are represented at this Congress.

We sincerely greet our dear guests, representatives of the working peasantry in the socialist states and other countries, brothers by class and brothers in our common struggle.

The attention of the Soviet public and the world is focussed on the Third All-Union Congress of Collective Farmers. It is significant that *all Soviet people*—collective farmers, workers, engineers, technicians, intellectuals, scientists and prominent people in the world of culture—took part in the broad discussion of the draft Rules and other questions of collective-farm life.

We note with satisfaction that at meetings, Regional and Territorial conferences and Republican congresses, collective farmers unanimously approved the policy mapped out by the 23rd Party Congress and the plenary meetings of the CPSU Central Committee. They see in this policy the principal framework for the development of agriculture.

The Third All-Union Congress of Collective Farmers is taking place at a time of great significance, a time when our country and progressive people the world over are preparing for the centenary of the birth of Lenin, the great leader and teacher.

No one understood the interests and aspirations of the working peasants better than Lenin did. Lenin saw in the peasantry a steadfast ally of the working class in the struggle to overthrow capitalism and build a socialist society.

The working peasantry of the Land of Soviets, devoted as they are to the ideas of Lenin, have shown the whole world that they are a militant and staunch ally of the working class. Shoulder to shoulded with workers, Soviet peasants have transformed the country, consolidated and safeguarded socialism and are now building a communist society.

I.

Comrades,

Several decades separate us from those unforgettable years when, for the first time in the history of mankind, we set about building a new, socialist system in the Soviet countryside. No matter how much time passes, how many events take place and generations succeed one another, people will never forget the deeds of those who fought so actively for the reconstruction of the countryside—members of the first agricultural communes, rural Communists, Young Communist Leaguers, teachers, rural newsmen and heads of village clubs, the 25,000 workers who volunteered to work in the countryside, workers of the political education departments of machine and tractor stations and state farms.

They were heroes of a great battle. It was a time when the proletariat in town and country fought a bitter class struggle against the many enemies of socialism.

During collectivization the Party had to break the fierce resistance of the kulaks and other class enemies and wage a determined struggle against the Trotskyites and Right-wing opportunists.

All this is history now. The cause of socialism has made great advance. Millions of people, who are building socialism on different continents, now stand beside us, and we are grateful to them for their support and friendship, for their attention to our work and our experience.

We speak of all this with the deepest sincerity. In the course of their socialist history Soviet people have indeed come to know what combat with international capitalism means. They have learned the value of friendship and the meaning of fellowship which make the hard road seem easier and straighter.

Throughout the struggle for the socialist transformation of the countryside the Communist Party has been guided by Lenin's cooperative plan.

Our Party was well aware of the hurdles on the road to collectivization, mainly the technical and economic backwardness of the country and the peasants' private-ownership mentality. It also took into account the intricate international situation of the state of the dictatorship of the proletariat, the only one in the world at that time. Surrounded by capitalist states and under the constant threat of a military attack the

country required socialist changes in the shortest possible time.

It was not by chance or at random that the Party chose the path of collectivization. This was scientifically substantiated and matured historically. It could not be ignored or bypassed.

The years of collectivization were a real school of political tempering and class wisdom for both workers and peasants. The peasants became convinced in practice that they could achieve their age-long dream of a free and happy life only in alliance with the working class, in close unity with the Leninist Party.

Mistakes were made in the process of collective-farm construction. But those were mistakes of a pioneering nature, and were due to the lack of experience. The Party boldly disclosed those mistakes, openly told the people about them and redressed them. Unfortunately, there are still people who like to exaggerate the mistakes made in this great revolutionary undertaking.

The Communist Party and the Soviet people are unanimous in their assessment of the collective-farm system. The collective-farm system is our great historical achievement.

The working class played an outstanding role in the victory of the collective-farm system. It supplied the peasants with tractors, combines, trucks and other machines; it worked actively for the setting up and strengthening of collective farms. Its finest representatives, sent by the Party to the countryside, together with the peasants organized the first collective farms. Many of them dedicated their lives to the promotion of collective farming.

The state-farm workers have made a big contribution to the socialist transformation of the countryside. They set an example in large-scale farming. Today, the state farms play a significant role in providing the country with agricultural produce.

The activity of Soviet intellectuals deserves the people's praise. Thousands of specialists—teachers, doctors, agronomists, land surveyors and machine-operators—went to the countryside and actively worked for the establishment of socialist relations there.

Soviet writers helped the Party and the people in the great cause of the socialist reconstruction of the countryside. You may recall Mikhail Sholokhov's "Virgin Soil Upturned,"

Fyodor Panferov's "Bruski," Vladimir Stavsky's "Momentum," and many other books.

Quite a few good books have been written about the socialist countryside and its heroes in the last few years, too. We hope that our men of letters and art workers will produce new vivid works of great magnitude, disclosing the profound processes at work in the modern socialist countryside.

The revolutionary cooperation of the working class, the peasantry and the Soviet intellectuals brought about the triumph of socialism, the radical transformation of the material and technical basis of agriculture and of the entire peasant life.

The collective-farm system brought the peasant a new life, free from exploitation, poverty and constant fear for himself, his family and farmstead. The older generation remembers that in the past the peasant was oppressed, ignorant, defenceless and without rights, that alone he faced the elements and all and sundry calamities.

The collective-farm system delivered the peasants from their miserable past and gave them a secure place in life. It made them masters of their destinies. *And this, Comrades, is a great thing!*

The Great Patriotic War was a grim trial for the young collective-farm system. During the war years, the collective farmers displayed their great loyalty to the country, to the collective-farm system while the collective farms showed themselves to be a powerful force in Soviet society.

The bourgeois politicians and pseudo-theoreticians continue to slander the collective-farm system, praising private enterprise in every way. But no matter how hard the bourgeois propagandists try, they will not be able to hide the monstrous expropriation, impoverishment and ruin of millions of peasant and farm households in the capitalist countries.

The postwar development of capitalist agriculture fully corroborates great Lenin's words that "capitalism raises the level of agricultural technique and advances it, but it cannot do so except by ruining, depressing and crushing the mass of small producers." (Lenin. *Coll. Works,* Vol. 16, p. 446.)

Here are only a few facts. For example, 2,600,000 farms, or 46 per cent of all the country's farmsteads, have been ruined in the United States in the last 18 years. The number of peasant households in the FRG has diminished by almost 600,000, or by 26 per cent, in approximately the same period.

The average annual number of ruined peasant households in Italy was 67,000 in 1961-67. As a rule, ruined farmers become farmhands or swell the ranks of the unemployed.

Is this the fate bourgeois propagandists want for our peasants? For the Soviet peasant the question of how to develop the countryside has been long and irrevocably solved. Our peasants are not looking for any other way, nor do they need it.

It is hard to overestimate the great historic role of the collective-farm system for the destinies of the Soviet peasants and the entire country.

From a *political* point of view, the collective-farm system has strengthened the Soviet state and its main foundation, the alliance of the workers and peasants; it has provided realistic conditions for the peasants' participation in the management of social production and in the solution of affairs of state importance.

From an *economic* point of view, the collective-farm system placed the advantages of large-scale farming at the service of socialism and communism, made it possible to develop agriculture on a modern industrial basis.

From a *social* point of view, the collective-farm system not only delivered the toiling peasants from exploitation and poverty but also made it possible to establish a new system of social relations in the countryside, relations leading to the complete removal of class distinctions in Soviet society.

The great Lenin's ideas on cooperation and the Party policy in the solution of the peasant problem have stood the test of time. The experience of the USSR and the other socialist countries has shown quite clearly that the construction of socialism in the countryside is the only possible way to happiness for the peasants and is the foundation of all working people's prosperity.

II.

Comrades,

We turn to the history of the collective-farm system today not only for the sake of paying our respects to the heroic past. It is useful to remember this past for the sake of the future as well. Our Soviet people are building the material and technical basis of communist society.

A comprehensive development of the country's agriculture plays a tremendous role in the implementation of this great task.

We have the necessary objective conditions for the successful advancement of agriculture: large estates, big socialist agricultural enterprises (such as collective and state farms), powerful industry, advanced science, skilled and experienced personnel, and, finally, millions of wonderful working people in the countryside.

As you know, the 23rd CPSU Congress and the March, May and October Plenary Meetings of the Central Committee determined the main directions of our policy and the concrete tasks in agriculture at the present stage. We strive for a correct combination in the Party policy of the interests of the State and our entire society with the interests of collective farms and collective farmers.

What are the main trends of this policy? To put it in the shortest way possible, it is, first of all, the further consolidation and improvement of the machine and technical base, the extensive land improvement and the chemicalization of agriculture. An important feature of this policy is the new order of planning the purveyance of agricultural products and economic stimulation of agricultural production.

The task is to carry out consistently the programme of agricultural development, worked out by the Party. We must judge our work by practical results. We must be strict and objective in the estimation of our activity, we must not overpraise or exaggerate our achievements but we should take due credit for them. But the most important thing is to be able to see our shortcomings; not to allow them to go too far, to eliminate them in time, and introduce necessary corrections into our plans and our work. Life does not stand still, it constantly brings new problems to the fore.

Comrades, implementing the decisions of the 23rd Congress and the Plenary Meetings of the CPSU Central Committee, the collective farmers, the state-farm workers, agricultural specialists and Party, government and land bodies have exerted no little effort in the last few years for increasing agricultural output. It must be pointed out that all the union republics, regions and territories have scored positive results in the development of grain and vegetable growing and livestock raising.

Permit me, comrade delegates, to draw your attention to certain data on the implementation of the decisions taken by

the Congress and the Plenary Meetings of the Central Committee on agriculture.

Compared with the preceding four-year period, in 1965-1968 the average annual gross agricultural product increased by 18 per cent; grain output, by 15 per cent; meat output, by 20 per cent; milk output, by 24 per cent; raw cotton output, by 22 per cent; sugar-beet output, by 47 per cent, and sunflower output, by 25 per cent. I named the most important products.

The growth of labour productivity has been conducive in no small degree to the advancement of agriculture. The state purchases of agricultural products have also increased. The production and purveyance of agricultural products have been growing at a faster rate these years than in the preceding period.

All this has made it possible to enhance the level of the consumption of foodstuffs by the population. Compared with 1964, for example, 8 kg more meat, 50 kg more milk and 36 more eggs have been consumed per capita in 1969.

You know that the current year has had its difficulties and complications for agriculture. Many areas of the country were struck badly by the elements. Yet, the output and stocking of the main agricultural products are going to be at approximately the same level this year as in the preceding four years.

Capital investments in agriculture have grown considerably, even though some pre-planned targets have not been achieved for a number of reasons. In the 1965-1968 period, the capital investments of the State and the collective farms were 19,000 million roubles more than in the preceding four-year period.

Big changes have occurred in the collective-farm economy and in the collective farmers' life in the last few years. The collective farms of today are large-scale agricultural enterprises equipped with modern facilities and manned with expert personnel. There are today more than 50 tractors, tens of trucks, combines and electric motors and plenty of other technical facilities per collective farm on the average. In 1935, at the time of the 2nd All-Union Congress of Collective Farmers, the collective-farm fixed assets were estimated at some 5,000 million roubles, compared with over 40,000 million roubles last year (in comparable prices), an eightfold increase.

The setting of fixed plans and the fixing of economi-

cally better substantiated purchasing prices of collective-farm products has become a powerful stimulus for the development of collective-farm production and the strengthening of the collective farms. The incomes of the collective farms and the payments for collective-farmers' work have grown by 50 per cent in the last few years. Active work on the improvement of the countryside has been started. The collective farms alone have almost doubled their expenditure for this purpose over the last four years.

The cultural standards of the countryside have been growing together with the advancement of economy and the improvement of social conditions. The Soviet peasant is an educated person. More than a third of the collective farmers have a higher or secondary education. This, Comrades, is our greatest victory. I have the pleasure of informing you that according to the registration results, almost half of the delegates to the collective-farmers' congress also have a higher or secondary education. Many collective farmers study in colleges, specialized secondary schools and general secondary schools without giving up their main jobs in the field or on farm sections. The working people of the countryside subscribe to more than 100,000,000 newspapers and magazines now. This, too, is a great achievement.

The extensive introduction of science and engineering into agricultural production changes the nature of the collective-farmers' work, brings about possibilities for their professional advancement. There are more than 2,000,000 machine operators and about 330,000 specialists with a higher or secondary education in the collective farms now.

As a rule, machine-operators, persons employed on livestock farms and other collective farmers are people who know their jobs, people who are initiated into the field of science and engineering and who, together with specialists, bring to the countryside modern production standards.

Thus, the Soviet countryside now has the necessary material, technical and socio-economic prerequisites for the further rise in agricultural production and for fuller satisfaction of people's requirements.

But you certainly realize, comrades, that big problems like comprehensive mechanization, chemicalization, large-scale land improvement and others cannot be solved in three or four years. This will require time and material resources, the necessary production base and skilled personnel.

III.

Comrades,

As I have already said, we have increased investments in agriculture during the last few years so as to strengthen its economic basis still further and to speed up its development rates. The Party and the Government will continue firmly to carry on the line of amply supplying collective farms and state farms with farm machinery, mineral fertilizers and means of transportation to increase investments in soil improvement, to stimulate production and procurement of farm produce.

The construction of a new big plant for the production of lorries and of a number of farm machinery plants will start in the near future. The industry is going over to the production of more efficient tractors and harvester combines. The output of tractor and automobile trailers is increasing.

In connection with the need for a considerable expansion of amelioration equipment and livestock section outfit, we have to specialize a number of enterprises in the production of this equipment and outfit and to concentrate their management.

The all-round development of agriculture, the strengthening of its material and technical basis, constitutes one of the main trends of the new five-year plan for the country's economic development which is being worked out at present.

The smooth and well-coordinated work of all the links of agricultural production and management, the day-to-day struggle to step up labour productivity and reduce production costs, organization, discipline and high moral responsibility of all for the jobs assigned them—all this is more necessary today than ever before.

Practical efforts for the fulfilment of the plans should be exerted in every republic, territory and region, in every collective and state farm, in all the central organs and ministries. This is the vital condition for the further growth of agriculture.

In all our work for the development of agricultural production we should bear in mind the annual growth of the country's population and growing requirements of our people. It is self-evident that it is necessary to have state reserves. We just cannot exist without them. This is also part of our national economic calculations.

Certainly much in the development of productive forces in agriculture depends on you, comrades—on collective farmers, collective-farm activists, specialists, chairmen of collective farms and all workers in agriculture.

Of the broad range of problems in agriculture I should like to direct your attention to those that are important in the development of this vital branch of the economy.

The problem of *land,* its effective use and the increase of its fertility comes first. You, workers in agriculture, are well aware of the importance of land in the life of man. Land is the source of our strength and well-being.

Collective farms possess vast plough-lands, meadows, pastures and woods. The land is in your hands, comrades, and all the collective-farm peasantry must take good care of it and raise the fertility of every hectare. This equally applies to state-farm workers who also have millions of hectares at their disposal.

The Party and Government documents and the Law on Land, adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet, repeatedly pointed out the need for a nation-wide struggle to raise the standards of farming, take systematic anti-erosion measures and achieve steady bumper crops on that basis.

We have to remind you of that once again today because the protection of land and the enhancement of its fertility is an indispensable condition of further progress in agriculture. This is a vital state problem.

Collective and state farms are duty-bound to work on land improvement, otherwise yields will be lower and there will be less food.

We all take pride in the vast expanses of our Motherland. But some people draw erroneous conclusions from this and think that our land resources are boundless. This is wrong. At present there are 0.94 hectares of plough-land per head of the population in our country. The per capita area of plough-land keeps dwindling from year to year due to the population growth and the development of construction work.

We must be very thrifty as regards land and take a strict and prudent approach to the allocation of land for the construction of industrial enterprises—without which we cannot do, of course. At the same time, we must see to it that the productive arable area should increase rather than diminish.

Soil protection is the concern of our entire society. Any damage done to land should be regarded as an anti-social act.

Those who misuse the land and are negligent about it, those who do not raise its fertility, actually undermine the fundamental material basis of the people's well-being.

Comrades, as you know our Party has worked out a programme for large-scale land amelioration and chemicalization of agriculture. This is a reliable and correct way of increasing the productivity of agriculture.

In the four years of the five-year-plan period, the supply of mineral fertilizers to collective and state farms increased by 12.7 million tons. Next year the increase in the supply of mineral fertilizers will also be great—more than eight million tons. The collective farms and the State invested more than 8,000 million roubles in amelioration over the last three years. Irrigation and draining work has been carried out over vast areas. A large production base is being set up for water economy construction.

As you know, we have launched such major water conservation projects of national importance as Kakhovskaya, Krasnodarskaya, Karshinskaya, the Great Stavropolsky Canal, and a number of others.

Recently the Politburo considered the problems of irrigation in the Volga Area. This big area of marketable grain production is often hit by droughts. In the dry years collective and state farms incur big losses. In turn, the State not only receives much less produce than usual, but also has to supply the farms of the drought-stricken areas with seeds, forage and food, and give them financial aid.

There is only one way of putting an end to this century-old calamity—*to irrigate those lands*. The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have adopted a decision which will initiate extensive work on irrigating the Volga Area.

We have pointed out more than once that the areas of the Non-Chernozem Zone have good prospects for increasing the output of farm produce on the basis of land improvement.

We shall go on concentrating our attention on problems of amelioration and chemicalization of agriculture and strictly fulfil the programme adopted.

Comrades, although this is not a new problem, it is necessary to emphasize once again that grain farming is the basis of agricultural production. Its condition and volume of grain production have a decisive influence on all the other branches and particularly on such an important branch as livestock breeding.

We should continue to keep grain production in the focus of our attention and do everything necessary to increase crop yields and gross harvests and purchases of grain.

We are faced with big tasks in the development of livestock breeding. Closely connected with this branch is the work of the food and light industry and, the main thing, the satisfaction of the day-to-day requirements of the working people.

As I have already mentioned, positive changes have occurred in the field of livestock breeding. We have not marked time in the output of livestock produce. This branch, however, does not fully satisfy the requirements of the population, and these requirements will keep growing with the improvement of the people's welfare. At the same time there are many unsolved problems in the development of livestock breeding—the level of mechanization of livestock sections is low, the industry for the production of machines and equipment for livestock breeding is developed inadequately, no due attention is paid to the strengthening of the fodder base on many farms. We should take account of all this and launch the necessary measures.

The Central Committee of the Party holds that not all collective and state farms use the opportunities available for increase in the livestock produce output, for improving its quality and reducing its cost. This shortcoming should be rectified.

I should like, in particular, to draw attention to certain problems of our work in the field of livestock breeding.

Until now many farms have sent ill-nourished cattle of very low weight to the meat packing plants. The simplest calculations show that if the as-delivered weight of cattle averages 350-400 kg for the country, with the present head of cattle we shall be able to increase meat procurements in the country by about two million tons. The leading farms are already delivering cattle of a greater weight.

You all realize that to increase cattle productivity it is necessary, above all, to improve fodder production.

As a result of carrying out the measures adopted by the March Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee, the collective and state farms were able to increase the grain expenditures on forage by 35 per cent. This played a big role in the growth of cattle and poultry productivity.

But, comrades, the same March Plenary Meeting drew

attention to increasing the production of coarse and succulent fodder. Nevertheless, no real headway has been made in this respect. Hay procurements for the cattle owned by collective farms increased only nine per cent and of silage, even decreased. These figures indicate serious shortcomings in the work of collective and state farms in ensuring fodder supplies.

We have to pay close attention to the number of all kinds of cattle. Certain farms do little to increase the head of cattle and even allow it to decrease. This is an unhealthy and wrong tendency. Today we need both the all-out increase of cattle productivity and a growth of the cattle and poultry population.

We cannot call normal a situation where part of the farms, specializing in the production of a certain livestock item, curtails the production of others, although there is every condition for the development of two or even three branches. Such farms often turn from producers into consumers and purchase livestock products on the side.

It goes without saying that our further road is that of farm specialization, of all-out development of industrialized production of foodstuffs. But in the problems of specialization we should not go to extremes or skip stages.

We hope that collective and state farms, leaning on the support of the state, will take more effective measures to put right the shortcomings in livestock breeding and will increase output.

Since Secretaries of the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics and of the regional and territorial Party committees, secretaries of the district Party committees and of the primary Party organizations of the collective farms, Chairmen of the Councils of Ministers of the Union Republics, Ministers of agriculture, Chairmen of the regional and territorial executive committees are present here, I should like to take this opportunity to tell them that they, too, should draw serious conclusions and take the necessary steps to increase the head and productivity of cattle.

We also plan to consider, in the near future, a number of problems connected with progress in this branch. Among these problems there are, above all, the extension of the manufacture of machines and mechanisms, the putting of livestock production on an industrial basis, and the further development of the mixed-fodder industry.

Consideration should also be given to the economic aspect of the problems connected with increasing the head of cattle and the output of livestock produce, with the interests of collective farms, state farms and the State being duly observed.

One of the main conditions for accelerated development of agriculture is scientific and technological progress in this field. The technical re-equipment of agriculture is by no means the concern of workers in agriculture alone. The role of science and industry in the development of the productive forces of collective and state farms has grown immeasurably.

Tractor, agricultural and amelioration machine building, the chemical and building industries, as well as the processing industry largely determine the level and effectiveness of production in field husbandry and livestock breeding. That is why the demands on the industries catering to the needs of agriculture should be increased substantially.

Agricultural science faces big problems. The collective and state farms need high-yielding crops and good breeds of cattle, effective means of combatting the diseases of plants and animals, progressive production processes and better methods of organizing them. More attention should be paid to the problems of the economics of collective and state farm production.

Soviet scientists, including those engaged in field and animal husbandry, have made outstanding achievements. And we are sure that our scientists will take a still more active part in solving the problems connected with the development of agriculture.

Scientific and technological progress in agriculture cannot simply be reduced to increased deliveries of new machines, chemical fertilizers and other means of production. An integral and important part of this process is the ability to make effective use of the land and fertilizers, of every machine and every rouble invested in production, to bring the greatest returns. And here everything depends on you, comrades, on active work and the organization of all agricultural workers.

An analysis of collective and state farm activity shows that already in many districts, with the present level of material and technical supplies to the farms, the yields of grain, cotton, sugar beet, potatoes, vegetables, fodder and other crops can and should be considerably higher than they are.

By no means all farms employ present-day production

technology, with effective use of machines, fertilizers, the achievements of science and up-to-date techniques. The work of collective farmers and state farm workers is not organized properly everywhere.

The training of personnel for mass professions, capable of conducting all work connected with the application of new machines, the introduction of chemicals and the development of land improvement at a high level, requires serious attention. In recent years large-scale work has been conducted in training these workers for agriculture. However, they are too few on a number of farms, many machines are operated only one shift. You ask that the supply of machines be increased. And this is quite a legitimate request. However, it is necessary to train new skilled personnel for the new machines.

Every collective and state farm should in good time and in a planned way train machine operators and other specialists, should have a definite reserve of such personnel and should show concern for creating the necessary production and living conditions for them.

Things should be organized so that machines are not idle, so that adequately trained people should be in charge of the use of chemicals in agriculture and of land improvement.

An important role in carrying out this national task can and should be played by the Young Communist League. On many occasions it has initiated worthy enterprises, has responded warmly to the Party's appeals. The YCL will render invaluable assistance to collective and state farms by developing a movement among the youth for mastering agricultural technical professions.

One can rest assured that the YCL will tackle this matter and in a very near future thousands of YCL members and youths will begin to drive tractors, combine harvesters and lorries, will work on land improvement, and become electricians and machine operators on livestock units. In this way our comrades in the YCL will render great assistance to our Party and to the people.

The USSR Ministry of Education together with the Ministry of Agriculture and other bodies should also consider ways of assisting collective and state farms in training secondary senior-form pupils as machine operators and other specialists.

The problem of cooperation between agricultural and

industrial enterprises at present, in connection with scientific and technological progress in agriculture acquires ever greater practical importance. I would like to remind you that this question was raised in the Party Programme where it was pointed out that "agrarian-industrial associations will gradually emerge, wherever economically expedient, in which given appropriate specialization and cooperation of agricultural and industrial enterprises, agriculture will combine organically with the industrial processing of its produce."

It should be said that a number of specialized state and collective farms in the Krasnodar Territory, in the Ukraine and in Moldavia are starting to operate on the principle of agrarian-industrial complexes.

Agrarian-industrial associations undoubtedly have a great future. This is not only a new organizational form but also an important socio-economic phenomenon. We should tackle this matter in a practical way, arming ourselves against making mistakes and taking decisions hastily, without sufficient preparation.

Problems of social welfare and cultural development in the countryside bear directly on the implementation of the plan we mapped out for the development of agriculture. We mentioned this at the 23rd Congress and at Plenary Meetings of the Central Committee of the Party and, during the past years, have accomplished quite a lot in this sphere. Many houses, schools, clubs, hospitals, trade and service establishments have been built in the villages. We have seen a considerable expansion of the supply of gas to the countryside and the completion of the electrification of villages.

Rural construction, however, is not yet conducted on the scale we would like to see. The requirements of the rural population in this respect are growing from year to year and therefore it is our common duty to find the resources and better provide rural construction with everything required, to improve the supply of cement, metal, timber, roofing materials and glass to the countryside and to allocate more equipment for manufacturing bricks and other local building materials.

The collective farms themselves should work more actively in this sphere. Then rural improvements and the building of cultural establishments could be considerably speeded up.

As you see, the collective and state farms of this country are confronted with vast and very important tasks. There is no doubt that collective farmers and all workers in agricultu-

re will make every effort and achieve an increase in agricultural produce.

Comrades! Today more than five million Communists, over eight million YCL members and 15 million trade union members live and work in the countryside. Today, there is not a single collective farm, or a single state farm without a Party organization. Communists are the recognized vanguard of the rural working people and are a model in the drive for a further upsurge in collective and state farm production.

This vast army of Communists, YCL and trade union members is united and headed by rural primary Party organizations and District Party Committees. They actively carry out the Party line, they are the militant organizers of the masses.

The Central Committee hopes, that the Party, trade union and YCL organizations in their political and organizational activities will ensure the successful fulfilment of the large programme for the development of agriculture.

Comrades! I would like to deal with two questions which have been raised at many meetings of collective farmers.

As you know, during the past few years we have carried out a number of major social measures, such as providing pensions to collective farmers, introducing guaranteed labour remuneration, etc. At present proposals are being advanced, to introduce a unified system of social insurance for collective farmers from contributions made by collective farms. This proposal in our opinion is worthy of the attention of the Congress. It concerns millions of collective farmers.

During the discussion of the draft Model Rules a desire was also expressed to set up elected collective farm councils from top to bottom in order to further develop collective farm democracy, the collective discussion of the most important questions concerning their activities; to generalize experience in organizing production and to elaborate recommendations for the fuller use of reserves of growth of social economy.

Collective farm councils elected from among the most experienced collective farm chairmen, front-rankers in production and specialists in agriculture, could play a great role in solving the tasks confronting the collective farms.

If the Congress finds it expedient to set up such councils, then an All-Union Council of Collective Farms could be elected here.

Comrades!

It is expected that the new Model Rules of the Collective Farm which you are to discuss will play an enormous role in the future growth of agriculture and in the development of the collective farm system.

I will not go into the detail about the new Rules. This will be done by Comrade D. S. Polyansky, Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, in his report. I would only like to stress that the adoption of the new Rules based on collective discussion by the general public and above all by the collective farmers themselves, opens up new opportunities for an upsurge in agricultural production and for stepping up the activities of the collective farm masses.

The adoption of the new Rules is a matter of great political importance. What I have in mind, and there is every reason to say so, is a new stage in the development of collective farms. The adoption of the Rules will also be an important landmark in the development of our entire socialist democracy, new proof of its profoundly popular nature, its irrefutable advantages.

The former Model Rules of the Collective Farm inspired and directed the activities of collective farms during the years of the beginning and development of socialist construction in our country. The new Model Rules will become the law of life and work of the collective farm peasantry in communist construction in the USSR.

Dear comrades! Our Party and the people devote all their energy to the cause of creating the material and technical basis of communism, the further development of social relations, to the communist education of people, in a word—to the tasks of building a communist society. How rapidly and successfully we will be able to carry out these tasks depends to a great extent on the external conditions under which we all have to live and work, on the situation in the international arena. Hence, it is natural that problems concerning international policy constantly demand great attention.

In international affairs the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, its Central Committee and our Soviet Government consistently and steadfastly carry out the policy charted by our great Lenin. We are making continuous efforts to implement the foreign policy programme approved by the 23rd CPSU Congress.

Our foreign policy is invariably a policy aimed at streng-

thening and developing the fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation of the socialist states, their militant alliance, their joint struggle for consolidating the positions of socialism and for ensuring peaceful conditions necessary for the development of our countries.

Our foreign policy is invariably a policy of solidarity and alliance with revolutionary anti-imperialist liberation, progressive and peace-loving forces throughout the world.

Our foreign policy is invariably a policy of struggle for a stable peace, for peaceful coexistence and mutually advantageous cooperation among all states, irrespective of their social systems. The constant efforts of the Soviet Union to conclude the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapon which was ratified yesterday by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet also serves the aim of achieving a secure peace and of diminishing the threat of a nuclear world war.

It is precisely because our foreign policy is a policy of peace that it is at the same time always and invariably a policy of resolute opposition to aggression, a policy of exposing and wrecking dangerous designs and adventures of the imperialist warmongers, who strangle the freedom of nations.

While waging the struggle for peace and friendship among nations we never forget the danger which stems from the adventurist policy of the enemies of peace.

The Central Committee of the Party and the Government of our country are doing everything possible to ensure that our defence will always be powerful and reliable, that the valiant Armed Forces of the Soviet Union have everything necessary to ensure the security of our country with the utmost reliability, so that, together with our brothers and allies—the socialist states—we can safely defend the interests of our great socialist community.

This is a general outline of the premises behind the policy which we are pursuing in international affairs. This policy of the Party and Government enjoys the unanimous and warm support of the entire Soviet people.

Our policy is supported and shared by our allies—the fraternal socialist countries. It is actively supported and approved by Communists of other countries, our political associates and comrades-in-arms in the revolutionary struggle.

This was shown most convincingly at the International Conference of Communist and Workers' Parties, held in Moscow last summer, where the participants spoke warmly and

cordially of the enormous role played in the world-wide revolutionary liberation struggle of the peoples by the Soviet Union and its Leninist Communist Party.

All honest people of the world, all those who cherish the cause of peace and progress of mankind, highly evaluate the USSR's policy as a major factor in maintaining world peace.

The international position of our country is strong and reliable, comrades. We have achieved no small success in the sphere of foreign policy. The positions of the forces of socialism, freedom and peace are growing steadily stronger throughout the entire world. The Party and the Government are doing everything possible that Soviet people may work confidently and calmly, fulfilling their historical mission of builders of communism.

Comrades! The Communist Party and the Soviet people are proud of the remarkable achievements of the working people of the countryside, both men and women. The collective farm peasantry, state farm workers and agricultural specialists have always shown great patriotism, political maturity, selflessness and unprecedented industry.

Many new and great tasks lie ahead. We are building a communist society, we are steadfastly advancing towards our goal. The Communist Party is well aware that the working people of the countryside together with the working class and the intelligentsia will devote all their strength, experience and knowledge, and their revolutionary enthusiasm to carrying out the grand tasks of communist construction.

Allow me on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to express once again the firm conviction that the work and decisions of the Third All-Union Congress of Collective Farmers will further strengthen the collective farm system and will help to achieve an upsurge in our entire socialist economy.

May success crown the work of your Congress! And may I wish you, dear Comrades, every personal happiness!

* * *

Permit me, Comrades, to read out the message of greetings of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers to the Third All-Union Congress of Collective Farmers. *(L. Brezhnev's speech was frequently punctuated by applause.)*

CONCERNING THE NEW MODEL RULES OF THE COLLECTIVE FARM

REPORT BY DMITRI POLYANSKY

Dear comrade deputies,

Esteemed guests,

The collectivization of agriculture and the victory of the collective-farm system holds a very important place among the great transformations carried out in our country after the October Socialist Revolution. The collective farms are a vital component of Soviet society. Our successes in building socialism are associated with them. With their help we are now fulfilling new, great tasks of communist construction.

The high evaluation of the successes of collective farm peasantry and all agricultural workers expressed in the message of greetings from the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the Soviet Government, and in the speech of L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Party Central Committee, at our Congress, shows that the Party pays great attention to strengthening the collective-farm system further and achieving a mighty upsurge of productive forces in agriculture.

The attention of the whole nation and the world public is now focussed on the work of representatives of collective farms who have gathered here in the Kremlin. This is easy to understand. The collective-farm Congress is a major event in the life of the Soviet countryside and the whole nation.

Our Congress will have to discuss and adopt the new Model Rules of the Collective Farm—the Law of collective-farm life in the countryside.

The Rules must conform to the new stage in the development of the collective farms and the tasks entailed in the national effort to produce an abundance of agricultural products and to better our entire life. It is called upon to improve social relations in the countryside, and to help build communism in the country.

This is the profound meaning and main purpose of the new Rules.

I. The Triumph of Lenin's Cooperative Plan

The victory of the collective-farm system and all the gains of the Soviet people are inseparably linked with Lenin's name and with our Party's struggle for the interests of the working people.

The Bolshevik Party, for the first time in history, came up with a realistic answer to the peasant question, to the elimination of exploitation and poverty of millions of agricultural workers. Lenin developed the teaching of Marx and Engels and proved that only by way of socialist revolution, in close alliance with the working class and under its guidance is it possible to free the peasants from social oppression.

In a few days we shall be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the day when Vladimir Ilyich spoke to delegates at the First Congress of peasant communes and agricultural artels. At that time, in 1919, these associations were barely discernible islands in the boundless sea of privately-owned peasant economies. Yet, even in those days our leader had the genius to see in them the shoots of the new, socialist system.

The Party and the Soviet power nationalized the land and, having turned it into people's property and provided peasants with hundreds of millions of hectares of land, considered that basic changes in the life of the countryside could be effected only on the basis of cooperative farming. The Lenin cooperative plan meant the transformation of millions of small economies into big, collective ones, and the

drawing of working peasants into the building of socialism.

As he worked out the programme of this construction—ways for industrializing the country and collectivizing agriculture—Lenin felt that the most difficult task would be to get the countryside started on building socialism. And he was right. It was necessary to overcome not only the age-old custom of the peasant to have his plot of land and his small private economy, but also the desperate resistance of the exploiting forces in the countryside. During collectivization it was also necessary to fight against opportunists of all kinds, and various distortions of the very idea and practice of cooperation.

The Communist Party brought together millions of working peasants to solve the problem, ensured their unification in collective farms and implemented all-round collectivization of agriculture.

A great part in this—the setting up and strengthening of collective farms—was played by progressive workers, experienced Communists, sent by the Party to the countryside. These together with the rural Communists and the district Party committees, were the guiding force and the heart and soul of collectivization. They united agricultural workers, brought them together and devoted all their energy, know-how and knowledge to the cause of triumph of socialism in the countryside.

Machine and tractor stations played a great part in the establishment and development of collective farms. It was there that the first Soviet tractors and combines, sent from town to country, were concentrated. It was there, just as on state farms, that the working class formed its powerful detachments which actively advanced Party policy to the villages. The creative activities of the machine and tractor stations were a bright chapter in the history of the collective farm system.

The establishment of the collective farms, the elimination of kulaks as a class marked a truly revolutionary development in the countryside and changed the entire way of rural life.

As a result of the unification of peasants on collective farms and the organization of state enterprises—state farms—a socialist system of agriculture was established in the country. The collective farm peasantry began working on the basis of collective, public ownership, and their vital in-

terests were tied in even more closely and inseparably with the interests of the working class.

The industrialization of the country made it possible to establish a virtually new material and technical base in rural areas, and to provide collective farms and state farms with modern machinery. Since the Second All-Union Congress of Collective Farmers, the per-capita power consumption in agriculture has increased almost ninefold. This means that growing numbers of collective farmers master the techniques of machine work which can be likened to the work done in industrial production.

At present the collective farms, with regard to size, fixed production assets and scope of output, are quite different from what they were in the thirties and forties. Suffice it to say that on an average each collective farm has over 6,000 hectares of arable land—four times as much as in 1935; and the indivisible funds have increased eightfold, now amounting to about 53,000 million roubles.

The state farms are even larger, having larger arable areas and production indices. Their share in agricultural production grows by the year.

Collective and state farms play a decisive role in supplying the country with crop and livestock products. Our agriculture is making a steady headway. The Soviet state has been doing its utmost and will continue to do so to enable the collective and state farms to control the elements and better cope with the tasks confronting them.

There have been great changes in the countryside, in the sphere of social relations. Collective farm property, along with the prevailing public property, has been firmly established as one of the two basic forms of socialist property. There is a higher level of socialization of collective-farm property as seen from the emergence of inter-collective-farm and state-collective-farm enterprises and associations. There are important qualitative changes in indivisible funds and in the distribution of incomes. All this brings collective farm property ever closer to the property of the whole people.

The living standards of agricultural workers have risen. The peasant, turned into a collective farmer, prospered as early as the prewar period. And at present the real incomes of collective farmers have increased more than fourfold, as compared to even 1940.

The countryside is undergoing noticeable changes all the time. Along with production development, there is an

increase in the scale of construction of housing and cultural and service facilities. In the past ten or twelve years more than six million collective farmers' families have moved into new houses. In many places villages are reconstructed into modern townships. There is a growing network of schools, clubs, palaces of culture and libraries, shops and canteens, medical institutions, kindergartens, and service establishments.

One can indeed say that today the farmer does not think of bread alone. He is increasingly interested in raising the cultural standard and obtaining the facilities that go with it. It is common knowledge now, that a third of the collective farmers have a secondary school or college education, and that all rural children go to school. The professions of agronomist, livestock expert, engineer, economist, tractor driver and combine operator, electrician and milking machine operator have become commonplace in the countryside. A vast number of intellectuals—people engaged in the spheres of education, health protection and culture also work in the countryside.

Soviet collective farm peasantry is a new kind of peasantry, born and bred under the influence of Lenin's cooperative plan. A loyal ally of the working class, the peasantry together with all the people are carrying out the tasks of communist construction.

The collective farm system has produced some wonderful people, who display real heroism in all areas of social production. As far back as the prewar years, the whole country knew the names of the best tractor drivers and combine operators, specialists in growing high-yielding crops and in livestock breeding; their splendid work evoked the admiration of the entire Soviet people.

Right now there are tens of thousands of such or even more specialists engaged in collective and state farm production and in livestock breeding; their labour is a source of inspiration to all agricultural workers. The collective and state farmers of today as a whole have a sincere personal interest in their work for social production. They understand very well that their effort is a decisive factor in meeting the needs of the nation in agricultural products, and in raising the living standards of their people.

Our woman farmers merit great praise. The collective farm system has given them a great chance, to display their capabilities and talents, and take an active part in collective

farm work and public life. Everyone knows the invaluable contribution they have made in strengthening collective farms and the difficulties they had to bear in the war years. The work of our woman farmers will go down forever in the history of the development of collective farms as a shining example of boundless heroism and patriotism.

The Great Patriotic War was a convincing demonstration of the inexhaustible strength of the collective farm system, the patriotism and energy of the collective farmers, of all agricultural workers. During the years of peaceful labour and in days of grim trials Soviet peasantry showed that it had firmly and forever bound up its life with socialist economy—with the collective farms.

The names of many eminent leaders of the collective farm movement, the first organizers and permanent leaders of collective farms will forever occupy a worthy place in the annals of socialist and communist construction. Their life is a vivid illustration of the significance and diversity of the talents of a working people who have become masters of their own destiny.

With the help of the Party, a large army of executives, highly skilled in collective farm production have appeared in the countryside. Among the delegates of our Congress there are quite a few comrades who have been heading large collective farms for many years and who by their exemplary work have earned wide popularity and national esteem. Their work is the living history of the collective farm system, a magnificent example for all agricultural executives and specialists, and for our youth.

The Party and Soviet Government do their best so that precisely such people—capable and highly skilled organizers and fine specialists—should appear in increasing numbers in the countryside. Collective farms, state farms and other agricultural enterprises now have more than 670,000 specialists.

Our scientists provide extensive aid to agriculture. They have developed fine varieties of cereals and sunflower, sugar-beet and cotton, tea and fruit; they have produced breeds of highly productive animals and poultry, they have evolved effective agrotechnical methods and made useful proposals on collective and state farm production; they have carried out (and are carrying out now) research in other fields. Many of our agricultural scientists are acclaimed in our country and abroad.

The triumph and successes of the collective farm system is a victory for the Lenin cooperative plan—the kind of achievement by working farmers the world has never seen before. Naturally, everyone knows that collective farm development in our country was not an easy job. And to the present day we have quite a few difficult and complicated problems. But were there any large social transformations that got along without difficulties? This is not the main point. The main thing is the radical changes which have occurred in agriculture and in the life of farmers.

The collective farm system has become a factor of historic importance, and there is no doubt that the socialist form of agricultural production is the answer for the future the world over.

Many socialist countries, using Soviet know-how and taking into account their concrete conditions, are successfully using Leninist principles of peasant cooperation and are achieving high production indices, and a considerable improvement in the life of agricultural workers.

The ideas of cooperation are also becoming a very attractive force to the working people in other countries. The victory of the collective farm system in the USSR is a sure guide-line for all who seek to embark on this reliable, tested road.

Summing up the results and analysing the path traversed by Soviet farmers, from a private to a collectivized and publicly owned economy—collective farms—one can draw the following conclusions:

first, the main and decisive prerequisite for the victory and consolidation of the collective farm system and improvement of the farmers' life is the socialist State, the power of the working people, the inviolable alliance of the working class and peasantry, their cohesion under the guidance of the Communist Party;

second, the victory of the collective farm system, the application of the socialist method of production in agriculture means qualitative changes in the peasantry proper and the further drawing together and identity of their interests with those of the working class. They have one and the same goal and task—building socialism, and establishing the material and technical basis of communism;

third, the existence of two forms of socialist property—collective farm and the property of the whole people—so far maintains certain differences between the working class and

peasantry. But as Soviet society advances to communism collective farm property and the property of the whole people are brought together ever closer, there is greater identity of interests of these two classes, and the intellectuals, who are a product of the socialist system;

fourth, as the collective farm peasantry supplies towns with the necessary agricultural products and contributes to producing the country's national income, it plays an active part in building up the property of the whole people and in strengthening our country's power. The state in its turn, constantly increases investments in agriculture, renders it every kind of assistance to strengthen public property in the countryside and thereby helps raise the level of collective farm property, bringing it closer to the property of the whole people.

At the same time the system of inter-collective farm associations, and construction and joint operation of various state-collective-farm projects also furthers this process. The system of inter-collective farm associations now covers practically all collective farms.

One more conclusion. The steady development of the material and technical basis of agriculture, providing all its sectors with modern machinery signifies a new stage in the development of collective and state farm production—the stage of its industrialization. This leads to the further drawing together of agriculture and industry and to the establishment of a single national economic complex with a uniform industrial base. At the same time there is a growing share of the working class in agriculture, machine workers on collective and state farms, and intellectuals in all spheres of social production; the reconstruction of the countryside is gaining in scope.

Such are the conclusions.

They show that the collective-farm system, having fundamentally changed the entire mode of life in the countryside opens up new, bright prospects for collective and state farm workers. Their labour is becoming more and more a kind of industrial labour. The distinctions between mental and physical work are increasingly becoming less pronounced. The work for the ultimate goal of wiping out the distinctions in social, economic, cultural and living conditions between town and countryside is gaining in intensity and scope.

Only in a country where power belongs to the people, in the country of triumphant socialism is all this possible.

Experience graphically confirms the correctness of the Leninist Party's policy and the measures mapped out at the 23rd Congress and the CPSU Central Committee Plenary Meetings and its clear-cut policy for building up a communist society.

The new Model Rules of the Collective Farm fundamentally accord with this policy and this course of action.

II. The New Rules—Law of Collective-Farm Life in the Period of Communist Construction

The basic principles of the Collective Farm Rules adopted at the Second All-Union Congress of Collective Farmers have stood the test of time. It is common knowledge that the planned targets—to build up a collective economy, to overcome want and backwardness and provide a better life in the countryside—have been attained.

Meanwhile, many clauses in the Rules no longer accord with the development of productive forces in agriculture and the nature of social relations in the countryside. Consequently, the Central Committee of the Party deemed it necessary to work out new Model Rules of the Collective Farm. A Commission headed by L. I. Brezhnev. General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was established. The draft of the new Collective-Farm Rules drawn up by the Commission was published in the press and discussed for over half a year on a nation-wide level.

I shall now examine the essence of the basic principles and most important features of the New Rules.

BASIC PRINCIPLES AND FEATURES OF NEW RULES

The new Model Collective Farm Rules set new targets for collective farmers and their social production, as applied to present conditions. They express our Party's policy to step up the development rate of socialist agriculture, to intensify the efforts of collective farmers in building communism and to provide greater satisfaction of the material and cultural requirements of working people.

Retaining some of the stipulations in the old Rules, the new Rules vividly express concern for consolidating and

multiplying collective-farm property, for making more efficient use of land that has been granted to collective farms for free and permanent tenure, i.e., in perpetuity. The Rules stress that valuable farm land should not, as a rule, be allocated for non-agricultural uses. This imparts a permanency to the use of collective-farm land and promotes more rational, scientifically substantiated farming.

Land is the foundation of life and of a nation's prosperity. Unlike machines, it possesses the remarkable property of never growing old and never wearing out. With judicious handling, it improves and becomes more fertile.

The Rules provide all the organizational and legal prerequisites necessary for making good use both of the land and of all collective-farm property. Collective farmers must safeguard public, socialist property, increase it and not tolerate a lax and negligent attitude towards it. The property of a collective farm, its fixed and circulating assets are indivisible.

The Rules give the collective farms much more economic independence and leeway and settle in a new way many matters pertaining to their activity. The amount of allocations for the extension of fixed and current assets is now determined by collective farmers themselves with due account for the need to guarantee the growth of social production. There is to be a new order of planning. The old Rules stipulated that the farm had to carry out plans for sowing, harvesting and other work, fixed by higher-level state bodies. Now collective farms are to draft and approve their economic plan themselves based on a fixed order for the sale of products to the state over a number of years. This fundamentally new practice of recent years has proved efficient and is reflected in the new Rules.

This order does not conflict with the principle of planned development of the national economy and prevents market spontaneity or the undermining of state interests. On the contrary, it makes it possible to rationally guarantee the interests of society as a whole and each and every farm individually and to step up the supply to our cities and towns of crop and livestock products, to build up state reserves, and to raise the incomes of the collective farms and the farmers.

This is why we cannot agree with some economists who propose that we replace centralized planning of farm produce purchases with free purchase and sale. This would lead to shifting the planned control of agriculture from the

sphere of production—the chief and decisive sphere—to the sphere of the market, of commodity exchange. This would mean giving up the advantages provided by planned economic management.

As for using economic levers for stimulating social production, the collective farms have the right to sell the state grain and some other products over and beyond state orders at higher prices. Collective farms may also establish direct contacts with state-owned shops and consumer cooperatives and sell their goods at collective farm markets.

The new Rules promote cost accounting at collective farms. The consistent application of this principle accords with the socio-economic nature of collective farms and makes all production sections more interested in the profitability of production.

One of the important features of the Rules is that they provide organizational and legal prerequisites for raising the level of socialization in agriculture and for concentrating and specializing production and for bringing collective-farm property still closer to being the property of the whole people. In this regard the following principles are fundamental:

In the first place, the Rules take into account such new processes as the establishment of specialized inter-collective-farm and state- and collective-farm enterprises, organizations and associations. Practice has shown that in the present conditions individual collective farms do not have the capacity for solving some important problems. But what is beyond the capacity or unprofitable for one farm is quite feasible and economically profitable when efforts and means are pooled with other collective farms or with state enterprises.

Such voluntary cooperation makes it possible to solve the problems involved in production specialization, the development of auxiliary farm-produce processing enterprises, organizing the marketing of goods, setting up enterprises for cattle breeding and fattening, for construction work and the production of materials for rural development.

The tendency to pool material and equipment resources and the monetary funds of collective farms and their efforts at solving certain problems actually means a new, progressive process in production cooperation in the countryside. The new feature is, that cooperation is effected not on the basis of small individual farms, as had been the case in the

first stage, but on the basis of large-scale, strong collective farms. The pooling of economic resources and the improvement of social life at collective farms is a logical development meriting full support.

Secondly, the Rules stipulate the collective farms' right to develop auxiliary enterprises and crafts. Since olden times these have played an important role in village life. Their existence was due, first and foremost, to the country's natural and climatic conditions and to the seasonal nature of agriculture. Now, too, many rural residents are engaged in social production for only a few months a year, which is abnormal, of course. In recent years it has become possible for the collective farms to set up various enterprises and craft industries and they are doing so. It is essential to give them the necessary assistance. Then they will be able to make better use of their labour resources and local raw materials, to put out goods the population needs, and to have social production account for a greater share of the labour effort and incomes of collective farmers.

Thirdly, the Rules provide for a fundamentally new approach to such basic problems as the distribution of gross output and incomes at collective farms. An adequate distribution of incomes is essential for raising the level of production. The Rules commit the collective farms to work for an economically sound combination of accumulation and consumption, to ensure an increase in funds for production, insurance, cultural and service requirements, and to consistently employ the socialist principle of labour remuneration.

Any collective farmer knows that the labour remuneration fund used to consist of what was left after funds had been transferred to indivisible and other public funds. This way it was not always possible to make ends meet, so to say, and to pay due heed to consumer demand. Now the collective farms by ensuring the respective growth of their public funds, guarantee each and every collective farmer remuneration which accords with the labour he puts into collective-farm production.

The remuneration now guaranteed at all farms enhances considerably the farmers' material incentive in developing public economy. Moreover, along with basic pay provision is made for additional payments for increasing output, improving quality and cutting production costs. Collective farmers also benefit from public consumption funds; and these will expand from year to year.

And *last but not least,* among the most important accomplishments of the Soviet countryside is the introduction of pensions for collective farmers. This measure concerns the vital interests of many millions of people. In addition, in keeping with a practice already established at some farms, the Rules specify that the farms have the right to make payments, out of their own funds, to pensioned farmers (over and above pensions received), to allocate funds for the construction of holiday resorts, collective-farm and inter-collective-farm health resorts, homes for the aged and invalids.

All this gives every honest worker confidence that he will be well provided for in his old age or in case of sickness. And provision for his wellbeing will steadily increase as the collective farms grow stronger and the national income mounts.

It must be stressed that the new Rules, extending the rights of collective farmers, reliably guarantee their implementation. This means not only that each and every farmer is provided with work in the economy with guaranteed pay, but also is entitled to recreation, social security, cultural and public services, vocational training and to take an active part in the management of the collective farm.

There is no need to prove that only under socialism, in social collective economy, is it possible to exercise such rights and to create such conditions for toiling farmers.

The collective economy has long been the main and decisive means of satisfying the material and cultural requirements of collective farmers. Meanwhile, their personal plots are still necessary. The Rules preserve the collective farmers' right to have their personal husbandry which is an additional source of income for them.

After the October (1964) Plenary Meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, unfounded restrictions on personal husbandries were abolished. They are now guaranteed the right to their personal plots of land, assistance on the part of the collective farm in tilling these plots and in providing fodder for the cattle. The size of personal plots and the norms of raising cattle are determined on the basis of local conditions, with due heed paid to correctly combining public and personal interests adequately.

The time will come when the public economy prospers to the point where the farmers themselves will give up their personal husbandries as economically inefficient and need-

less. But there is no reason to restrict them; artificially to expedite this process is to disregard the realities of life in today's countryside.

The new Rules are also noteworthy in that they are directed at the further consolidation and development of collective-farm democracy. This development is already proceeding along two principal lines. On the one hand, the collective farms are acquiring more economic independence, the farmers themselves are dealing with a wider range of matters and on the other, the forms of their participation in managing public affairs are steadily improving.

By affirming the decisive role of the collective farmers themselves in all spheres, the Rules stipulate that the main questions should be considered on the collective farm by its highest body—the general meeting—or by a delegated meeting, when it is difficult to convene a general meeting. In addition to general meetings, there should also be meetings of teams and other farm sections.

The Rules promote the principle of electing collective farm executives. It is generally known that the chairman and members of the board are elected at general meetings. Today team leaders and the heads of other farm sections should also be elected by their production collective. All of them are accountable to their collective. The farmers have the right to recall from elected bodies or dismiss from office anyone who has not justified the confidence placed in him, who has failed to cope with his task.

Besides extending democratic principles in collective farm leadership and the rights of the farmers, the Rules also define the duties of the farmers stressing the great responsibility they bear for their work and the affairs of the collective, and outline measures to be taken against people who violate discipline and established procedure and against unconscientious workers.

The collective farm is a school of communism for the peasantry. And this is confirmed by every article of the new Rules. They not only define the essence of production tasks but also the educational functions of the collective farm. They outline measures for rural development, improving the appearance of the village and raising the general educational, cultural and technical level of the collective farmers. They enable the farmer to take an active part in managing the affairs of the collective farm. They call on the farmer to

increase social property, participate in communist labour, and work for a better life.

These are the major theses and specific features of the New Rules.

THE RESULTS OF THE DISCUSSION OF THE DRAFT MODEL RULES OF THE COLLECTIVE FARM

The draft of the new collective farm Rules published in the press evoked enormous interest. It was discussed at the collective farms, at district meetings, at Regional and Territorial conferences, at Republican congresses of collective farmers, at numerous meetings of workers, by the personnel of state institutions and public organizations. There was a ready response from scientists, the press, radio and television. This was indeed a nation-wide discussion with the participation of tens of millions of people.

On the whole the draft Rules were unanimously approved. At the same time thousands of letters were received by the Central Committee of the Party, by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers, by editorial offices of newspapers and magazines and by other institutions and organizations expressing approval and making new suggestions and comments. The Commission for drafting the Rules studied them carefully and included the most valuable points in the draft.

Allow me on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government to thank most heartily all those comrades who actively participated in the discussion of the draft Rules and who did much to help the Commission prepare the draft.

Before going into the essence of the proposals received, mention should be made about the name of the Rules themselves.

In the published draft they were called "Model Rules of the Collective Farm (Agricultural Artel)." Why use both names?

Present-day collective farms are large socialist enterprises supplied with modern machines, and having hundreds and even thousands of people working there. Such farms cannot be called artels: in the past this name meant a group of people banded together for common work mainly under a

contract. In the laws in force today, in diverse Party and Government documents today only one term is used—the *kolkhoz*. This word has long ago become an international word—its precise meaning in any language is an agricultural collective enterprise and nothing else.

The Commission is of the opinion that we should delete the word "artel" in the name. Let the Rules which we have assembled to discuss be called purely and simply—*Model Rules of the Collective Farm.*

It should be noted that the Rules, expressing the identity of the diversified activities of the collective farm peasantry, the common aim of all collective farms, at the same time stress by the word *Model*, that they take into account the peculiarities and the specific features of each collective farm.

Proposals regarding the content of the Rules cover a wide range of questions. In each of them one feels concern for the further strengthening of the collective-farm system, for the upsurge of agriculture, for creation of an abundance of crop and livestock products in the country. And this is gratifying.

Allow me to briefly outline some of the proposals.

The first group of proposals. They cover a wide range of matters, all worthy of attention:

a) it is recommended that the Rules should mention that public property can belong either to individual collective farms or be the common property of two or more farms, or of the state and collective farms. The property and the funds of a collective farm or a group of collective farms cannot be used for purposes not envisaged by the Rules;

b) it is proposed that the Rules specify the need for collective farms to ensure correct crop rotation, to improve seed production, to make rational use of fertilizers, etc.;

c) many comrades also raised the question of defining in greater detail in the Rules, the tasks of the collective farm with regard to rural development and provision of cultural facilities and public services for collective farmers, and of outlining concrete measures for the development of physical culture and sports;

d) a number of letters raised the question of paying personal pensions from collective farm funds to veterans of the collective farm movement, to the first organizers of agricultural artels and to leaders of collective farms and production units for good work over a long period.

The Commission is of the opinion that all the above-

mentioned proposals are correct and useful and should be included in the new Rules.

The second group of proposals. In the first place there is the question of setting up a system of collective-farm bodies from bottom to top. Many comrades have made a concrete proposal that in order to extend collective-farm democracy, farm Councils should be set up in the Districts, Regions and Republics, as well as in the centre. These should be democratic bodies elected from among experienced collective-farm chairmen, front-rankers in farming, specialists and scientists, administrative executives connected with agricultural production, as well as leaders of public organizations. The Councils could consider and discuss collectively the most important matters of collective-farm construction, generalize valuable experience in organizing production, and offer recommendations for making the best use of the reserves of the common enterprise.

The Commission is of the opinion that this proposal deserves serious attention and should be discussed at our Congress. If the Congress considers it necessary to set up collective-farm Councils we could here and now elect an All-Union Council and later hold elections to the collective farm councils of the districts, regions (territories) and republics.

Another question that was widely discussed was the procedure of electing the Chairman of a collective farm, members of the board and the auditing commission. Some comrades favoured the secret ballot, others preferred an open vote.

Considering the difference of opinion, the Commission concluded that the question concerning the procedure of elections and voting should be decided in each case by the collective farmers themselves and this right be included in the Rules.

The third group of proposals. They deal with the need for improving material and machinery supplies for collective farms, with putting in order the marketing of agricultural produce, as well as with medical services, the development of trade, transport and communications in the countryside and with providing competent legal services for the farms. There have been many letters on introducing a unified system of social insurance for collective farmers, on drawing them into the trade unions on a larger scale. A number of comrades feel the Rules should stipulate the number of working hours and the minimum amount of work to be done for the common enterprise, the procedure for providing days off and annual

vacations, remuneration for collective farm chairmen, agronomists and other specialists.

There are many such questions. However, some of them, which in essence are correct, require attentive study on the part of corresponding bodies. Others which are also of a business-like nature should be incorporated in the regulations adopted by every collective farm, in the stipulations regarding labour remuneration. To include all this in the Rules would mean complicating them. There is no need for unnecessary detail.

As far as social insurance for collective farmers is concerned this is a very important question which merits the most careful consideration today.

Finally the *fourth group of proposals.* Some suggest that the amount of contributions to the different funds be specified in the Rules. It stands to reason that in distributing income care should be taken to correctly combine accumulation and consumption, ensure the growth of public funds and a higher living standard for the collective farmers. However, to make provision for all this in the Model Rules, to fix unified scale of contributions for all collective farms in the country would mean a return to the old procedure.

Many raised the question of improving the organization of trade at collective-farm markets and putting it in order. The relevant administrations should take note of these proposals and draw practical conclusions. However, one cannot agree with those who propose to restrict the rights of collective farms and collective farmers to sell their surplus produce at collective farm markets. This will not only infringe upon their rights but will also affect the supply of fresh vegetables as well as other agricultural products for the urban population.

It should also be pointed out that in the flood of letters on the Rules there were quite a number of remarks of an editorial nature. They do not change the essence of the problems raised but in a number of cases improve the text. Many of these remarks have already been taken into account, others can be adopted while the Congress is in progress.

Such are some of the most significant proposals and remarks received during the discussion of the new Rules—the Law for collective farm life while we proceed to build communism.

It is necessary to stress that the Law does not only apply to farmers. It should also be observed by all other organiza-

tions in their relations with collective farms. Its consistent application will ensure the further strengthening of the collective-farm system, and the all-round upsurge of socialist agriculture.

III. The Setting up of a Highly-Developed Agriculture Is a Task for the Entire People

Comrades,

In the historical process of building a communist society, along with a powerful industry, an all-round developed agriculture is a major link in the whole chain. To transform it into a highly productive branch of the economy is a major national task. Lenin pointed out that unless a strong agricultural basis is created no economic development is possible. (Lenin. *Coll. Works*, Vol. 31, p. 505).

Today agriculture provides more than one-third of the country's national income. Agricultural products and industrial products manufactured from agricultural raw materials take care of 75 per cent of the country's requirements in consumer goods. It is impossible to overrate the importance of these factors.

The Party and the Government strive to accelerate agricultural development in every way, to ensure such growth rates and such proportions in social production which would best serve the national interests.

This task is dictated by the entire situation. It is determined by the population and income growth and a greater demand for agricultural and livestock products. It is connected with the development of socialist industry and its requirements for agricultural raw materials. It stems from the need to increase reserves and insurance stocks of these products. At the same time it is necessary to take into account growing economic ties with the socialist and other states.

The Soviet country today has everything required for accelerating the rate of agricultural development, for reequipping the collective and state farms with modern machinery in accordance with the requirements brought forth by the scientific and technological revolution. Socialist methods of production, the domination of social ownership, provides the widest scope for an expansion of the productive forces of the countryside. This will also be facilitated by the new collective-farm Rules.

What are the concrete ways of solving the problems confronting agriculture under present-day conditions? L. I. Brezhnev in his address to the Congress spoke about this, about the vast and complicated problems which our country, our people will have to solve in the sphere of agriculture. These problems are so varied we shall have to return to them time and again in the future.

Our aim is to *produce a steady increase in the output of crop and livestock products,* cutting down on costs, improving quality and fully satisfying the country's requirements for the most diverse agricultural products.

In order to cope successfully with this task it is necessary *to raise farming standards.* Today when agriculture has been put on a sounder material and technical basis the opportunities for applying scientific research and valuable experience have greatly increased. Today we are in a better position to strive for high and stable harvests in all districts of the country than in the past.

A major role in this belongs to *land improvement.* This is of tremendous economic importance, considering the large arid zones and districts with water-logged soils. The urgency of the problem is due to the fact that improvement work has been confined to an exceedingly small area. The State is at present developing this work on a large scale, spending large funds combatting wind and water erosion of the soil. Rational and effective use should be made of these funds.

Land improvement should be carried out on a larger scale by collective farms themselves; this is not just a matter of establishing large irrigation and drainage systems. It is also important to use local run-off for irrigation, to build ponds and reservoirs and to clear fields of stones and brush.

Stepping up the rate of collective and state farm production also call for the consistent application of *large-scale chemicalization* of agriculture. Over the last eight years supplies of fertilizers have more than tripled. Even so this does not fully take care of the needs of collective and state farms. That is why the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government have found it necessary to greatly step up the manufacture of fertilizers, effective plant and animal protection agents and also products of microbiological synthesis.

Specialization and concentration of production are becoming increasingly effective factors in the advance of agriculture. If properly organized, it should be possible to obtain a considerable rise in production output, cut produc-

tion costs, ensure a more complete and even employment of manpower throughout the year and to utilize the natural resources and means of production more efficiently.

It is particularly important to extend the process of specialization and concentration to livestock farming and to considerably improve the mechanization of labour-consuming operations on farms. It is necessary to intensify livestock breeding on collective farms, to establish large specialized cattle-fattening and milk-producing centres, to build mechanized poultry farms, to improve the fodder basis and to develop mixed feed and microbiological industries. It has been shown in practice that such farms are highly effective.

The necessity of increasing the rate of development in agriculture demands that much *more attention be paid to the question of comprehensive mechanization* of all its branches, and that the level of agricultural engineering and the electrification of collective farm and state farm production be raised. To consolidate the material and technical basis it is necessary to develop more powerful and reliable machinery and introduce it in the production process as early as possible.

The Party proceeds from the premise that agriculture must measure up to industry in the degree of technical equipment and use of scientific and technological achievements. It is necessary considerably to step up the output of machinery and implements, increase their supply to agriculture and guarantee a high rate of electrification in order to provide a sounder basis for raising labour productivity on collective and state farms.

Naturally, each farm must *make better use of the equipment available* and bring all its *reserves* into action. Extra capacity is to be found, not only in the use of machinery, but also in a more rational organization of labour, in the ability to carry out all operations in optimum time and to introduce the achievements of science and advanced know-how in production on a wide scale.

A great role in the further development of collective and state farm production is to be played by *agricultural science.* We need both new high-yield varieties of crops and new and more productive breeds of cattle. Care must be taken to improve agricultural machinery and economic guidance methods, to tackle numerous other problems and train skilled personnel.

The interests of the Soviet people and of communist con-

struction demand that agricultural production should fully meet the growing requirements of the population for foodstuffs and of industry for raw materials. But this is not only the task of agricultural workers. It will take the combined efforts of workers and peasants, scientists, specialists and all Soviet people to accelerate the rate of collective and state farm production.

In order to exceed the present level of agricultural production, it is necessary to ensure a continuous increase *in capital investments* in collective and state farm production and to step up the pace of its material and technical supply. The organization of procurement and marketing of produce should also be improved and the problem of storing, delivering and processing it should be solved urgently. The Party and the Government are giving serious thought to these questions.

It is necessary to increase in every possible way collective farm and national socialist property and to enhance the responsibility of managers, all collective farmers and state farm workers for its safekeeping. After all, what we now have and what we are rich in, belongs to us, to the people, is the product of our labour; it is the fruit of our hands multiplied by undaunted heroic work.

This is why we should be thrifty masters. Fostering a truly concerned attitude to socialist property and moulding the new man in the Soviet countryside does not come spontaneously; this noble undertaking requires qualified guidance.

Special attention should be paid to *educational work among the youth*; it is one of the most important tasks of Party, trade union and Komsomol organizations. Our youth of today dream of flights into outer space and want to become sailors, pilots or engineers, scientists or writers. We need all these and many other specialists; they are important and honourable. But we must also think about the earth. For us agricultural labour is equally important and praiseworthy, the work of tractor driver and combine operator, agronomist and livestock expert, milkmaid and electrician, lorry driver and economist, and many others. That is why the training of such personnel on a scale sufficient to meet the requirements of each collective and state farm is now of paramount importance.

It is necessary to foster in rural children a love for the earth from their early childhood, to explain to them the tre-

mendous significance of agricultural work and to teach them to take joy in this labour. It is important to foster in young men and women a feeling of pride in the contribution their work makes to the prosperity of their own collective or state farm, to their village. After all, patriotism, love for the Motherland is linked with the place where one lives. The new collective farm Rules oblige all to show concern for young people. The future belongs to them. They must take the place of the older generation and carry forward the banner of communism. And they—who are to take our place and who are our hope—need constant paternal care and attention.

On the collective farms the new, communist morality is being strengthened and the sentiments of friendship and collectivism, comradely cooperation and mutual assistance, respect for man and responsibility to society for one's work are growing. Nothing is as inspiring to a person as attention shown and support given, as social recognition for his good work. It is necessary *to make wide use of the great power of socialist emulation,* of the movement for a communist attitude to labour.

Many collective farmers rightly say that it would be wrong to think that the rouble is the only way to arouse their enthusiasm for work. That remuneration for work has grown and continues to grow is of course a good thing, they write; but to assert that collective farmers are working hard simply for the sake of money is to hurt and insult them. Every one of us, a number of letters say, has a peasant's pride; we strive to work so that our labour can add to the wealth of society—the basis of our welfare—and strengthen the might of our country.

These are fine words. It can be said with certainty that all honest-minded workers in agriculture think likewise.

The Rules display great *concern for women collective farmers.* The collective farm is obliged to help them improve their skills and master present-day agricultural techniques, create more favourable conditions for their work on the collective farm and not hesitate in promoting them to leading posts. It is necessary to ease their work not only on the collective farm, but also at home—putting more effort into building children's pre-school institutions, bakeries, canteens, laundries and other public services. One should improve life in the countryside so that women working in agriculture feel the special care shown to them and their children. And women will be grateful for the attention shown to them.

The establishment of a highly-developed agriculture is inseparably bound with the solution of all these problems, with gradually overcoming the substantial differences between town and countryside. This is the concern of the entire people. In many areas work is already under way to reconstruct rural localities. But even greater and more complicated work is still ahead. The new collective farm Rules attach exceptional importance to the solution of this problem.

Tasks stemming from the accelerated rates of collective and state farm production and from the reorganization of the countryside call for an *improved guidance of agriculture from top to bottom,* more attention to collective and state farms, and an improvement in the style and methods of work of Party, Soviet and agricultural bodies. Particularly important now is the role of rural Party organizations, of district and Party activists. They do tremendous work of rallying millions of collective and state farm workers to obtain higher production figures.

It is very important also, for the board of the collective farm and its chairman, to cope with the present-day requirements set for agriculture. Collective farm leaders should, to a greater extent, take account of the specific nature of collective production. Wide democracy in discussing the planned measures must be combined with personal responsibility for the assignment given. The ability to ensure this combination is a great art, and this art must be shown first of all by the collective farm chairman.

Collective farmers want their chairman to be an intelligent and skilled organizer, a considerate comrade and a man of principle, to whom the interests of the collective and of the state, a correct combination of the two, and the interests of the Party and of the people come before everything else. Such a chairman will not consider doing everything single-handed. He will take counsel from members of the board, from rank-and-file collective farmers, Communists and YCL members. He will work in close contact with the trade union committee and the village Soviet, with leaders of district organizations.

The Party and the Soviet state, which have trained numerous efficient organizers and hundreds of thousands of experienced specialists in agriculture, are seeing to it that there are many more such workers. It is essential to have well-educated and skilled workers in all decisive sectors. The agronomist and livestock expert, engineer and mechanic and other

specialists should least of all engage in paper-work. They ought not to be distracted by this. It is their mission to be real organizers of production and to bear responsibility for the work in their care.

The existence of highly skilled executives and specialists, the growing general educational, cultural and technical standards of all agricultural workers, the ever-increasing material, technical and financial aid from town to country, the improvement of Party and state guidance—all this helps to work more successfully for an abundance of agricultural produce, for reconstructing the countryside and improving public relations in it, for a better life in the country.

The strong unity of the Party and the people, the inviolable friendship of workers and peasants, of town and country, the alliance of industry and agriculture, science and labour—such is the guarantee of our successes in all the spheres of communist construction.

It is for this, for the victory of communism, that our Leninist Party is calling. It is these great goals that the new collective farm Rules serve.

* * *

Comrades,

The farmer's work has always been considered worthy of profound respect. In the Soviet Union it has become particularly honourable. In a short period workers in agriculture, assisted in every way by the working class and under the guidance of the Communist Party, have covered a long and glorious road. Every collective farmer knows that this road is inseparably connected with Lenin's name.

On the eve of the centenary of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin's birth the Soviet peasantry, together with our entire people, express their most ardent love and deep gratitude for everything he did for the people. Now all workers in agriculture and indeed all Soviet people have one common thought, one aim in mind to mark the historic date in a worthy manner and with their work to strengthen still more the might of our country.

Long live the indestructible alliance of workers and peasants!

Long live the powerful unity of the whole Soviet people!

Glory to our dear Leninist Party!

MODEL RULES OF THE COLLECTIVE FARM

The collective farm system is an integral part of Soviet socialist society; this is the path charted by Lenin which has been historically tried and tested and which meets the interests of the peasantry; it is the path for its gradual transition to communism.

Public ownership of the means of production, the advantages of large-scale collective farming and the constant concern and assistance of the Party and the state have made it possible to achieve tremendous socio-economic transformations in the countryside. Thanks to the devoted labour of the collective-farm peasantry, the efforts of the working class, of the entire Soviet people, the collective farms have been turned into large mechanized agricultural enterprises, their common wealth has grown immeasurably, the living standards of the collective farmers has been improved, and the differences between town and country are gradually being obliterated.

The collective farm as a social form of the socialist economy fully meets the tasks of further developing the productive forces in the countryside, ensures the management of production by the collective farmers themselves on the basis of collective-farm democracy, makes it possible properly to combine the personal interests of the collective farmers with

the public interests, the interests of the entire people. The collective farm is a school of communism for the peasantry.

Under the leadership of the Communist Party, the collective-farm peasantry, in close and unbreakable alliance with the working class, is actively participating in the building of communism in our country.

I. Aims and Tasks

1. The . . . . . (name) collective farm in . . . . . District . . . . . Area of . . . . . Region (Territory) of the . . . . . Republic is a cooperative organization of peasants who voluntarily united for jointly engaging in large-scale socialist agricultural production based on public ownership of the means of production and collective labour.

2. The collective farm sets as its main aims:

to strengthen and develop in every way the common enterprise, steadily to raise labour productivity and the efficiency of common production;

— to increase the output and sale to the state of farm produce by intensifying and further technically re-equipping collective-farm production, introducing comprehensive mechanization and electrification, and widely applying chemicalization and land reclamation;

— to work, under the guidance of the Party organization, for the communist education of the collective farmers, drawing them into public activity and developing socialist emulation;

— to satisfy more fully the growing material and cultural needs of the collective farmers, to improve their living conditions and gradually transform the villages into well-appointed communities.

II. Membership of the Collective Farm, Rights and Duties of Members of the Collective Farm

3. All citizens of the USSR who have reached the age of 16 and expressed a desire to participate by their labour in the common enterprise of the collective farm are eligible for membership of the collective farm.

New members are admitted by the general meeting of the

collective-farm members upon the recommendation of the farm board and in the presence of the applicant.

An application for admission to the collective farm is taken up by the collective-farm board within one month.

A single type of "Labour Record Book" is kept for each member of the collective farm.

4. A member of the collective farm has the right:

— to receive work in the common enterprise of the collective farm with guaranteed payment in accordance with the quantity and quality of the labour he contributes;

— to participate in managing the affairs of the collective farm, to elect and be elected to its management bodies; to submit proposals for improving the activity of the collective farm and eliminating shortcomings in the work of the board and officials;

— to receive from the collective farm assistance in advancing his production skill and in learning a trade;

— to use the farmyard plot for subsidiary farming, the erection of a dwelling and farm buildings, and also to use collective-farm pastures and draught cattle and transport facilities for personal needs in the way established on the collective farm;

— to social maintenance, cultural and other services and assistance of the collective farm in building and repairing his dwelling and to provision with fuel.

5. It is the duty of a member of the collective farm:

— to observe the Rules of the collective farm and the internal regulations, to carry out the resolutions of general meetings and decisions of the collective-farm board;

— to work conscientiously in the common enterprise, to observe labour discipline and to master advanced methods of work;

— actively to participate in managing the affairs of the collective farm, to husband and safeguard state and collective-farm property, to prevent mismanagement and careless attitude towards the common wealth, rationally and correctly to utilize the land in common use and the farmyard plots.

6. Membership of the collective farm is preserved to persons who temporarily leave the collective farm in cases of:

— active military service;

— election to an office in government, public and cooperative organizations;

— full-time study;

— work in inter-collective farm organizations, in indus-

try or other sectors of the national economy for a period fixed by the collective-farm board.

Membership of a collective farm is also preserved to farmers who stopped working owing to old age or disability if they continue to live on the collective farm.

7. Application by a farmer to leave the collective farm is considered by the collective-farm board and a general meeting of the collective-farm members within three months after the application has been filed.

The collective-farm board makes a complete settlement with the former member upon the end of the economic year not later than a month after the approval of the collective farm's annual report.

III. The Land and its Use

8. In conformity with the Constitution of the USSR, land is secured to the collective farm for free use for an unlimited time, that is, in perpetuity.

The land secured to the collective farm is state property, that is, the possession of the entire people, and cannot be the object of purchase and sale, lease and other transactions.

Each collective farm is given by the executive committee of the district (city) Soviet of Working People's Deputies a state deed of the right to the use of the land in which the size and exact boundaries of the land secured to the collective farm are indicated.

The land secured to the collective farm is divided into lands in common use and farmyard lands. Farmyard lands are delimited from the lands in common use.

9. A collective farm undertakes to utilize most fully and properly and constantly improve the land secured to it, to raise its fertility, to utilize unused areas for agricultural production, to carry out measures for irrigating and draining the land, to combat soil erosion, to plant protective forest belts, to husband and strictly protect collective-farm lands from being squandered and to observe the rules for nature conservation, the use of forests, water sources and minerals (sand, clay, stone, peat, and so on).

The farm board, leaders and specialists are responsible for the rational utilization of land.

10. A reduction in the area of collective-farm lands or change in the boundaries of land used by the collective farm,

caused by state or public needs, is made only with the consent of the general meeting of the collective farmers by decisions of the respective state bodies. Moreover, it is not allowed, as a rule, to turn over irrigated and drained land, ploughland and land taken up by perennial fruit trees and berry shrubs and vineyards for non-agricultural use.

The collective farm has a right to compensation for losses connected with a decrease in the area of its land or temporary use of that land. Compensation is made in the way established by the operating laws.

IV. Common Property of the Collective Farm

11. Common property of the collective farm, alongside state property of the land, constitutes the economic basis of the collective farm.

The common property of the collective farm consists of enterprises, buildings, installations, tractors, combines and other machines, equipment, transport facilities, draught and productive livestock, perennial plants, reclamation and irrigation installations, the produced goods, money and other property of the collective farm. The property and means of inter-collective-farm and state-collective-farm organizations and enterprises are also common property of the collective farm, consistent with the share of its participation.

12. To carry on its activity and further extend the common enterprise the collective farm sets up fixed and circulating productive assets and utilizes and replenishes them in a planned and efficient way. These assets are inalienable (they are not subject to distribution among the collective-farm members) and are utilized only for their designated purposes.

The fixed assets of non-productive designation are also inalienable.

13. Only the collective farm itself, its management bodies, have the right to dispose of the property and money resources of the collective farm. The collective farm forbids diversion of funds for purposes not connected with its activity.

Fixed assets and other material values may be purchased, sold, culled and written off in the way established by the general meeting of the collective-farm members and on the basis of operating laws.

Members of the collective farm who, owing to negligen-

ce or careless attitude, have caused the destruction, spoilage or loss of collective-farm property or are guilty of unauthorised use of tractors, automobiles, farm machinery, or draught livestock, who have inflicted material harm on the collective farm, must compensate it to the collective farm.

The size of the actual damage is determined by the collective-farm board. If damage results from a collective farmer's inefficiency, recovery is made to the fullest extent possible of the damage but not over one-third of the farmer's basic monthly earnings. If damage is inflicted deliberately, as well as in cases envisaged by law, the guilty party recompenses the damage in its entirety or is even imposed a penalty. Recovery of damage is effected by the farm board or, if litigation occurs, by a court of law.

V. Production, Economic and Financial Activity of the Collective Farm

14. The collective farm operates its enterprise in accordance with the plan approved by the general meeting of the collective farmers, applying the most progressive, scientifically-based forms and methods of production organization which ensure the obtaining of a maximum output of high quality with the least input of labour and resources.

In drawing up its plans the collective farm proceeds from the need for extended reproduction of the common enterprise, fulfilment of the plan of state purchases, agreements, and contracts for the sale of farm produce and the above-plan sale of grain and other produce needed by the state, and for the satisfaction of the material and cultural requirements of the collective farmers.

15. The production and financial activity of the collective farm is conducted on the basis of cost accounting and wide use of moral and material stimuli aimed at developing production and raising the profitability of the farm.

16. The board and all the members of the collective farm undertake to ensure:

— rational farming through its intensification and specialization and priority development of the branches for which the best natural and economic conditions are available;

— a rise in the yield of crops by advancing the efficiency of farming, implementing crop rotation, improving seed-

growing, applying a system of fertilization, and other measures;

— the utmost development of animal husbandry, a growth in the productivity of livestock and poultry, an improvement in the breeding of pedigree livestock, the observance of zootechnical and veterinary rules and the development of ample and stable production of fodder;

— the introduction of new technology and progressive production methods, overall mechanization, electrification and the achievements of science and the best experience; land reclamation and chemicalization of agriculture;

— efficient use and maintenance of tractors, combines, automobiles and other machines, draught and productive livestock, buildings and installations;

— the construction of farm buildings and cultural and service establishments, dwellings and children's institutions, roads, water conservation and other installations in conformity with the plans for developing the collective-farm enterprise and building up the populated localities.

17. To make fuller and more even use of the labour resources and local raw-material sources and raise the profitability of the common enterprise, the collective farm organizes and develops, if this is not to the detriment of agricultural production, auxiliary enterprises and also various crafts; it may enter into contractual relations with industrial enterprises and trading organizations for the setting up in the collective farm of branches (shops) for the manufacture of various articles and commodities by the collective farmers in periods free of agricultural work.

18. The collective farm may, on voluntary lines, participate in the activity of inter-collective-farm and state-collective-farm enterprises and organizations and join associations and unions.

19. By decision of the general membership meeting the collective farm may pool part of its funds with the funds of local Soviets of Working People's Deputies, state farms and other state and cooperative enterprises and organizations in order to build in the collective farm, on a shared basis, cultural and service establishments and carry out community improvements and other measures designed to develop collective-farm production and improve cultural and other services to the collective farmers.

20. The collective farm concludes contracts with state, cooperative and public organizations for the sale of farm

produce, the purchase of machinery, materials, livestock and other property, for the sale of semimanufactures and goods produced by subsidiary enterprises and crafts, for the fulfilment of various jobs and the rendering of services and also enters into other contractual relations conforming to the purposes of its activity.

21. The collective farm opens accounts for settlements and the deposit of money resources in offices of the State Bank of the USSR and makes all cash and settlement operations in conformity with the established rules.

The transfer or issue of money from the accounts of the collective farm in offices of the State Bank of the USSR is made by order of the collective-farm board.

The collective farm may use state short-term and long-term credits.

An order of the collective-farm board for the transfer or issue of money from the accounts of the collective farm and also credit obligations of the collective farm are valid if signed by the chairman and head book-keeper of the collective farm.

22. The collective farm maintains book-keeping, operational and statistical accounts, introduces advanced methods and forms of accounting, draws up reports according to the approved forms and submits them in the set periods to the appropriate agencies.

23. The collective farm is not liable for obligations and debts of a member. Members of the collective farm are not liable with their property for obligations and debts of the collective farm.

VI. Labour Organization, Remuneration and Discipline

24. All jobs in the common enterprise of the collective farm are performed by the personal labour of its members.

The hiring of the specialists and other workers from the outside is allowed only in cases when the collective farm has no respective specialists or when agricultural and other jobs cannot be done by the collective farmers in the time stipulated.

The collective farm introduces scientific labour organization and sees to the full and most rational use of manpower in common production.

25. The duration and regulation of the working day in the collective farm, the procedure of providing free days, an-

nual paid vacations and also the minimum participation of the able-bodied collective farmers in the common enterprise, are set by the internal regulations of the collective farm.

26. The forms of organizing production and labour—sections, departments, brigades, teams and other production units—are established and applied by the collective farm, depending on the concrete conditions of the enterprise and the level of mechanization, specialization and the production processes.

Collective farmers are selected for the production units with due consideration for the skill, experience in work, aptitude, place of residence and personal desire.

Land plots, tractors, machinery and implements, draught and productive livestock and the necessary buildings and other means of production are secured to the production units of the collective farm.

The activities of production units of the collective farm are conducted on the basis of internal cost accounting.

27. The common enterprise of the collective farm is the main source of income for its members. Labour in the collective farm is remunerated in conformity with the quantity and quality of the work contributed by each collective farmer to the common enterprise in accordance with the principle: higher pay for good work, for the best results. Increase in payment should come as a consequence of growth in labour productivity on the collective farm.

Payment for work in the collective farm is made either on the basis of piece rates for the volume of the work done or the produce obtained or on a job-bonus basis or on a time basis according to the set rates. Poor work, owing to the fault of the collective farmer, is not paid for or the amount of pay is correspondingly reduced.

Output quotas and rates for agricultural and other jobs are drawn up and, when necessary, revised with the wide participation of the collective farmers and specialists, proceeding from the standard output quotas and the concrete conditions of the enterprise, and are approved by the collective-farm board.

28. The collective farm fixes a guaranteed remuneration of its members for work in the common enterprise.

Additional payment and other forms of material incentives are applied, alongside the main labour remuneration, to enhance the material interest of the collective farmers in increasing the output of farm produce, improving quality and

reducing costs.

Members of the collective farm who without valid reason fail to make the established minimum labour contribution to the common enterprise or who shirk work may, by decision of the collective-farm board, be deprived, in part or in full, of the additional remuneration and other forms of material reward.

29. To satisfy the need of the collective farmers in agricultural produce, the collective farm sets up a fund in kind for distribution according to work, allotting to it a definite part of the harvest of grain and other foodstuffs and also of fodder. These foodstuffs and fodder are issued or sold to the collective farmers in quantitites and in the way established by the general membership meeting.

30. The collective-farm board ensures the timely payment of the earnings of the collective farmers. Money is paid not less than once a month and payment in kind is made as the produce is received.

Final settlement with the members is made not later than a month after the annual report of the collective farm has been approved.

31. The collective-farm board, guided by the present Rules, draws up Internal Regulations which govern payment for work and settlements within the farm, and which are approved by the general membership meeting.

32. All work in the collective farm is performed with observance of the established safety rules and the requirements of production sanitation.

The collective farm allots the necessary resources for safety and production sanitation measures, for the purchase of special clothing and special footwear and protective devices for issue or sale to the collective farmers according to the established rates.

33. Women collective-farm members have a right to a maternity leave; expectant mothers are assigned easier work; nursing mothers are afforded the necessary conditions for the timely feeding of the infants; they may be given additional leave.

The collective farm establishes a shorter workday for adolescents and a number of benefits.

34. For the attainment of high results in production, the elaboration and introduction of innovations, the saving of common funds, for long irreproachable work on the collec-

tive farm and for other services to the collective farm, the general membership meeting or the board applies the following measures of rewarding the collective farmers:

— a vote of thanks;

— award of a bonus, of a valuable present;

— award of an honorary certificate;

— posting on the Board of Honour or entry in the Book of Honour;

— award of the titles "Merited Collective Farmer" and "Honorary Collective Farmer;"

The general membership meeting of the collective farm may also establish other measures of reward.

The titles of "Merited Collective Farmer" and "Honorary Collective Farmer" are conferred by the general membership meeting in accordance with the regulations approved by the collective farm.

35. For violation of labour discipline, the Rules of the collective farm or Internal Regulations the following penalties may be imposed on the guilty persons by the general membership meeting or the collective-farm board:

— censure;

— reprimand;

— strict reprimand;

— transfer to lower-paid work;

— release from the post held;

— warning about expulsion from collective-farm membership.

Expulsion from collective-farm membership may be employed as an extreme measure only against persons who systematically violate labour discipline or the Rules of the collective farm after other penalties have been applied against these persons. A decision of the general membership meeting concerning expulsion from the collective farm may be appealed against to the executive committee of the district (city) Soviet of Working People's Deputies.

Persons expelled from the collective farm are deprived of the rights of a collective-farm member established by the present Rules.

Penalties on the chairman of the collective farm and the chairman of the auditing commission and members of the board and members of the auditing commission may be imposed by the general meeting of the collective farmers, and on the chief (senior) specialists, the head book-keeper and

heads of production units, by the general meeting or the board of the collective farm.

The procedure of imposing penalties and absolving persons is specified in Internal Regulations.

VII. Distribution of the Gross Output and Incomes of the Collective Farm

36. The incomes are so distributed as to ensure the proper combination of accumulation and consumption, constant increase in production and insurance funds and funds for cultural and other services, and an advance in the living standards of the collective farmers.

The material production outlays (depreciation of the fixed assets, expenditure of seeds, fodder, fertilizers and oil products, outlays on current repairs and others) are compensated from the gross output produced by the collective farm.

A fund of payment for work is set up by the collective farm from the gross income.

The net income is used by the collective farm for:

— payment of taxes and making money payments to the state;

— increasing the fixed and circulating assets;

— setting up a cultural and service fund and a fund for social maintenance and material assistance to collective farmers;

— material rewards to collective farmers and specialists;

— setting up and replenishing the reserve fund and other purposes.

Allotments for increasing the fixed and circulated assets are obligatory; the amount of the allotments is fixed annually, taking into account the need in resources for ensuring the further continuous expansion of common production.

37. From the obtained output of farm and livestock products the collective farm:

— sets up a seed fund covering its full requirements;

— fulfils the plan for the sale of farm produce to the state, returns loans in kind, sets up a fund of grain and other foodstuffs for issue or sale to the collective farmers and, if possible, sells grain and other produce needed by the state over and above the plan;

— allots fodder for the common livestock and poultry in quantities covering the annual requirement and also for issue or sale to the collective farmers;

— sets up insurance and carry-over reserves of seeds, fodder and foodstuffs;

— allots foodstuffs for public catering, the maintenance of children's institutions and orphans and part of the foodstuffs or fodder for assistance to pensioners, invalids and needy members of the collective farm.

The collective farm sells the rest of the produce to consumer cooperatives and on the collective farm market or utilizes it for other needs at its own discretion.

38. Money received from the sale of produce and other sources is utilized by the collective farm in the first place to settle with the collective farmers for their work, to cover other production outlays, to make payments to the state and return money loans, to set up and replenish the collective farm's common funds.

VIII. Social Maintenance of the Collective Farmers

39. In accordance with the operating laws, members of the collective farm receive old-age and disability pensions and pensions in case of the loss of the bread-winner; women, in addition, receive paid maternity leave on account of the centralized Union fund for the social maintenance of collective farmers.

40. Collective farm members receive, under the established procedure, temporary disability benefits and accommodation at rest homes and sanatoriums out of the farmers' centralized social insurance fund. Other types of social insurance are also available to farmers.

The collective farm, by decision of the general membership meeting, can augment any type of pension set for collective farmers as well as establish personal pensions for collective farm veterans and persons who have made important contributions to the development of collective farm economy.

Material aid to its disabled members who do not receive a pension or allowance is given by the collective farm out of its own funds. By decision of the general membership meeting the collective farm may allot resources for building collective-farm and inter-collective-farm sanatoriums, holiday homes, Pioneer camps and homes for the aged and disabled.

In keeping with the established procedure the collective farm makes allocations to the farmers' centralized social security and social insurance funds.

IX. Culture, Services and Community Improvements

41. The collective farm takes measures to raise cultural and other living standards of the collective farmers, to ensure their good health and provide facilities for physical training to them and their families.

For these purposes the collective farm:

— builds and equips collective-farm clubs, libraries and other cultural, educational and sports establishments, promotes the development of physical training and sports and sets up kindergartens and crèches;

— helps parents and the school to bring up properly the children, maintains close ties with the school and renders aid to educational agencies in the production training of children, allots plots, machinery, seed, fertilizers and transport facilities to schools and ensures jobs for school graduates on the collective farm;

— organizes, if necessary, public catering for the collective farmers;

— renders assistance to public health agencies in providing medical treatment and carrying out prophylactic measures on the collective farm, gives members of the collective farm vehicles free and urgently for transporting sick people to medical institutions;

— carries out community improvements and brings electricity and radio to the populated localities of the collective farm and to the homes of the collective farmers; facilitates organization of community services; renders assistance to collective farmers in building and repairing dwellings in the way established in the collective farm and also provides living quarters to specialists working in the collective farm in need of them.

The collective farm sees to advancing the skill and cultural and technical level of its members; sends, in the established way, collective farmers to study in higher and specialized secondary educational establishments, vocational schools and advanced training courses; in keeping with the law, grants privileges to farmers who both study well at evening general or specialized schools or by correspondence and work conscientiously on the farm.

Upon graduation, farmers who have been sent to study by their collective farm are to return to the farm and work in the field of their specialization.

X. Subsidiary Farming of the Family of a Collective Farmer (Collective-Farm Household)

42. The family of a collective farmer (collective-farm household) may own a dwelling, farm buildings, productive livestock, poultry, bees and small farm implements for work on the farmyard plot.

The family of a collective farmer (collective-farm household) is given for use a farmyard plot for a vegetable patch, orchard and other needs of up to 0.50 hectares, including land under buildings, and on irrigated lands, of up to 0.20 hectares.

The size of the farmyard plot, within the set norms, is fixed by the Rules of the collective farm. Moreover, the size of the existing farmyard plots, established in conformity with the previously operating Rules of the agricultural artel, may be preserved.

The size of the farmyard plot and the number of livestock which the family of a collective farmer (collective-farm household) may keep are set by the general membership meeting, which takes into account the size of the family and its labour participation in the economy of the collective farm.

In case of compact residential construction in rural inhabited localities the collective farm allots the collective farmers near their dwellings (flats) farmyard plots of a smaller size, giving them the rest of the plot beyond the bounds of the residential zone of the locality. In so doing the total land given for use to the family of a collective farmer (collective-farm household) must not exceed the size of the farmyard plot envisaged in the Rules of the collective farm.

Use of farmyard plots in the size fixed by the collective farm is preserved to families of collective farmers (collective-farm households) in cases when all members of the family (collective-farm household) are unable to work owing to old age or disability, when the only able-bodied member of the family (collective-farm household) has been called up for active military service or has been elected to an office, or has begun to study, or has temporarily taken up other work with the consent of the collective farm and when only minors remain in the family (collective-farm household). In all other cases the question of preserving the farmyard plot is decided by the general membership meeting of the collective farm.

A farmyard plot may not be turned over for use to other persons or cultivated with the employment of hired labour.

The collective farm board renders, in the way established by the collective farm, assistance to collective farmers in cultivating the farmyard plots; such assistance is first of all rendered to families which do not have able-bodied members.

The collective-farm board systematically controls observance of the fixed size of the farmyard plots. In cases of unauthorized augmentation of the farmyard plot, the excess land shall be taken away by the board and the crop grown on it shall be turned over to the collective farm without compensating the outlays made during its unlawful use.

43. A family of a collective farmer (collective-farm household) may have one cow with offspring up to one year and one head of young stock up to two years, one sow with offspring up to 3 months old or two pigs for fattening, up to ten sheep and goats (combined), beehives, poultry and rabbits.

An increase in the norms of keeping livestock in personal possession of the family of a collective farmer (collective-farm household), the replacement of one kind of livestock by others in some districts taking into account national distinctions and local conditions, is allowed by decision of the Council of Ministers of a Union Republic.

The number and kinds of livestock which the family of a collective farmer (collective-farm household) may keep within the bounds of the fixed norms are determined by the Rules of the collective farm.

The collective-farm board renders the collective farmers assistance in acquiring cattle, furnishes zoo-veterinary service and also provides the livestock with fodder and pastures.

The keeping of livestock above the norms established by the Rules is prohibited.

44. The collective farm, by decision of the general membership meeting, gives farmyard plots to teachers, doctors and other specialists working in a rural locality and residing on the territory of the collective farm. Factory and office workers, pensioners and invalids residing on the territory of the collective farm, if there are free farmyard lands, may be given farmyard plots by decision of the general meeting of the collective farmers.

The collective farm may also allow the above-mentioned persons to use pastures for their livestock in the established way.

XI. Management Bodies and the Auditing Commission of the Collective Farm

45. The affairs of the collective farm are managed on the basis of broad democracy and active participation of the collective farmers in settling all questions of collective-farm life.

The affairs of the collective farm are managed by the general membership meeting of the collective farm and in the interval between meetings, by the collective-farm board.

46. The general meeting of the collective-farm members is the highest managerial body of the collective farm.

The general membership meeting:

— accepts the Rules of the collective farm and introduces amendments and addenda to it;

— elects the board, the chairman of the collective farm and the auditing commission of the collective farm;

— decides on the admission of members to the collective farm and expulsion of collective farmers from membership;

— accepts the internal regulations of the collective farm and the regulations on payment for work and settlements within the farm economy;

— approves the economic organizational, long-term and annual production and financial plans of the collective farm;

— hears reports of the board and the auditing commission of the collective farm on their activity;

— approves the annual report and the size of the collective-farm funds in kind and in money;

— approves decisions of the collective-farm board on the appointment and release of chief (senior) specialists and the head book-keeper of the collective farm;

— decides questions concerning the participation of the collective farm in inter-collective farm and state-collective farm enterprises and organizations, its joining associations and unions, and the amalgamation or division of the collective farm;

— considers problems of changing the size and boundaries of the land in the collective farm's use.

Decisions of the collective-farm board on the questions enumerated above, without their approval by the general meeting of the collective farmers, are not valid.

The general meeting of the collective farmers also examines other questions of the collective farm's activity.

47. General membership meetings are convened by the collective-farm board not less than four times a year. The collective-farm board also must convene a general meeting of the collective farmers if this is requested by no less than one-third of the members of the collective farm or by the auditing commission.

A general meeting is empowered to decide questions if it is attended by not less than two-thirds of all the members of the collective farm.

Decisions at a general meeting of collective farmers are taken by a simple majority vote.

The collective-farm board informs the collective farmers about the convocation of a general meeting not later than seven days prior to the meeting.

48. On large collective farms where it is difficult to convene general membership meetings, meetings of delegates may be convened for deciding questions which come within the competence of the general meeting.

Delegates are elected at meetings of collective farmers in brigades and other production units of the collective farm. The rates of representation and the procedure for electing delegates are set by the collective-farm board.

Questions to be decided by the meeting of delegates are first discussed at meetings held by brigades (production units). Delegates report on decisions taken by their meeting at brigade (production unit) meetings.

Meetings of delegates are empowered to decide questions if attended by not less than three-fourths of all the delegates.

49. The collective-farm board is the executive body responsible to the general meeting of the collective-farm members and it directs all the organizational, production, financial, cultural, service and educational activities of the collective farm.

The collective-farm board organises the fulfilment of plans for the production and sale to the state of agricultural produce and rational utilization of land, thriftily and carefully spends material and money resources and takes measures to strengthen production and labour discipline.

In its activity the collective-farm board constantly relies on the mass of collective-farm activists, stimulates and maintains the constructive initiative of the members in improving the organisation of common production and raising labour productivity, constantly cares for improving the work-

ing and living conditions of the collective farmers and carefully and attentively considers their requests and proposals.

The collective-farm board is elected for a term of three years. Every year the collective-farm board renders a report of its activity to the general meeting of the collective farmers.

Meetings of the collective-farm board are convened whenever necessary, but not less than once a month; the board is empowered to decide questions if the meeting is attended by not less than three-fourths of the board members.

Decisions of the board are taken by a simple majority vote.

50. The general meeting of the collective farmers elects the chairman of the collective farm, who is simultaneously chairman of the collective-farm board, for a term of three years.

The chairman of the collective-farm directs the daily activity of the collective farm, ensures fulfilment of the decisions of the general meeting and the board and represents the collective farm in relations with state bodies and other institutions and organizations.

The collective-farm board elects from among its members one or two deputy-chairmen of the collective farm.

51. A head book-keeper is appointed by the collective-farm board from among the collective-farm members or is hired on a labour contract.

The head book-keeper organizes the work of accounting and reporting in the collective-farm, exercises daily control over the safekeeping and proper spending of money and material resources. The head book-keeper, together with the chairman of the collective farm, signs the annual report of the collective farm and documents for the receipt and expenditure of money and material resources.

52. Specialists to guide various branches of the collective farm's activities are appointed by the board from among the collective-farm members or hired on a labour contract.

The chief (senior) specialists are responsible for the branch they guide and organize fulfilment of the production and financial plan. Instructions of chief (senior) specialists on questions within their competence are binding on members as well as officials of the collective farm.

53. To ensure wider participation of the membership in managing common production, meetings of collective far-

mers are called in brigades and other production units of the collective farm.

The meeting of collective farmers of a brigade (unit):

— elects the head of the brigade (unit), with his subsequent approval by the collective-farm board;

— examines the planned assignment, reports of the head of the brigade (unit) on the work done and other production matters;

— discusses measures for strengthening labour discipline and submits to the collective-farm board proposals on measures of reward or penalties.

The meeting is convened by the head of the production unit, board or the collective-farm chairman.

The meeting may elect a council of the brigade (unit). The head of the respective unit is the chairman of the council. The rights and duties of the council are determined by the collective-farm board.

Orders of the head of the brigade (unit) relating to production matters are binding on all collective farmers working in the given unit. The head of the brigade (unit) is subordinate in his work to the board and the collective-farm chairman and on special questions also to the chief (senior) specialists.

54. To control the economic and financial activity of the board and the officials of the collective farm an auditing commission is elected for a term of three years. The auditing commission elects a chairman from among its members.

The auditing commission is guided by the Rules of the collective farm and operating laws, reports to the general meeting of the collective-farm members and exercises control over the observance of the Rules of the collective farm, the preservation of collective-farm property, legality of the contracts and economic transactions, expenditure of money and material resources, correctness of the accounts, reports and settlements with the collective farmers and also the timely consideration of complaints and applications of collective farmers by the board and officials of the collective farm.

The auditing commission makes every year not less than two auditings of the collective farm's economic and financial activity, periodically checks the economic activity of brigades and other production units and gives its conclusion on the annual report of the collective farm. The auditing reports are approved by the general meeting of the collective farmers.

55. The auditing commission is authorized:

to exercise control over the utilization and safekeeping of such collective-farm property as agricultural produce, seeds and forage, equipment, funds, draught and productive livestock, buildings and other structures;

to obtain from officials and collective farm members documents that require checking;

to submit, after inspection and checking, proposals for consideration by the general meeting and the collective farm board.

Proposals of the auditing commission are to be examined at a regular general membership meeting and those submitted to the collective-farm board, within ten days.

56. The board, chairman of the collective farm and chairman of the auditing commission are elected by a show of hands or by secret ballot at the discretion of the general meeting of the collective farmers.

The number of members of the board and auditing commission is decided by the general meeting of the collective-farm members.

The collective-farm chairman and board members who have not justified the confidence of the membership may be recalled before the expiry of their term by decision of the general meeting.

57. The collective farm creates the conditions necessary for the successful activity of social organizations.

58. An economic council or economic analysis office, cultural and service commission, mutual assistance fund and other social organizations may be set up on the collective farm.

XII. Adopting and Registration of the Rules of the Collective Farm

59. The Rules of the collective farm, adopted by the general meeting of the collective-farm members on the basis of the Model Rules, are submitted for registration to the executive committee of the district (city) Soviet of Working People's Deputies. Subsequent amendments and addenda to the Rules of the collective farm are introduced in the same way.

60. The registered Rules of the collective farm are in the custody of the collective-farm board, the district agricultural

agency and the executive committee of the district (city) Soviet of Working People's Deputies.

61. In its activity the collective farm is guided by the Rules of the collective farm and operating laws.

The collective farm, being a socialist agricultural enterprise, enjoys the rights of a juridical person and has a seal and a banner.

RESOLUTION OF THE THIRD ALL-UNION CONGRESS OF COLLECTIVE FARMERS

On the Establishment of Collective Farm Councils

To promote collective-farm democracy, collective consideration of the more important matters concerning life and work on collective farms, generalization of experience in the organization of production, and elaboration of recommendations on the fuller utilization of the socialist economy reserves, the Third All-Union Congress of Collective Farmers resolves:

1. To establish elective collective-farm councils in districts, regions, territories, republics as well as an All-Union (Central) Council.

Collective-farm councils in districts are elected at meetings of collective-farm representatives; collective-farm councils in regions, territories, autonomous and Union republics as well as the All-Union (Central) Council are elected at meetings of representatives of corresponding collective-farm councils.

2. To elect at this Congress the All-Union (Central) Collective Farm Council.

III Всесоюзный съезд колхозников
(сборник материалов)
на английском языке
Цена 14 коп.